

MARCH AND BE PROUD

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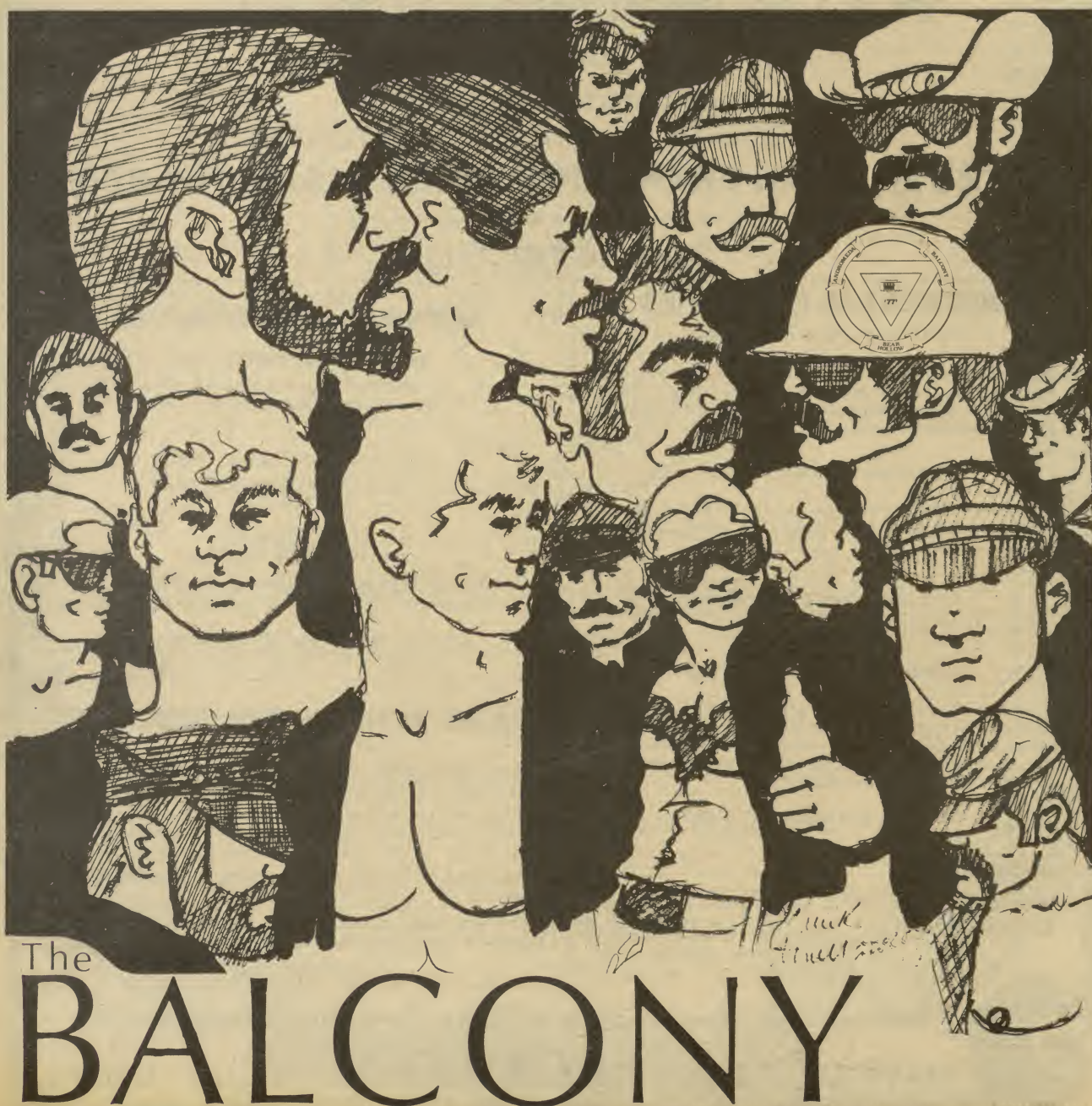
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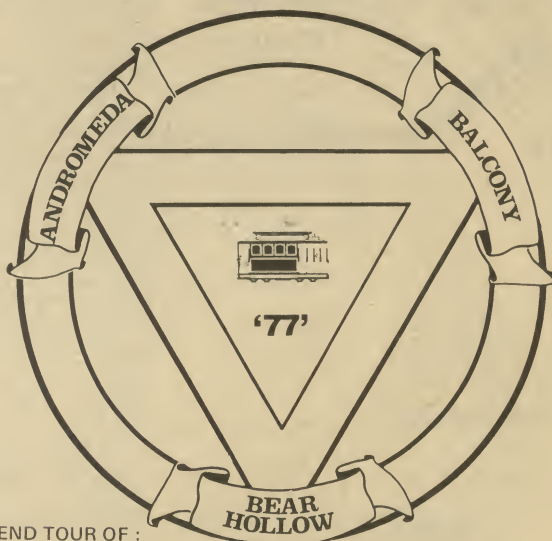
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MARCH AND BE PROUD

A Super Parade FROM FRIVOLITY TO PRIDE

At press time, the Gay Freedom Day Parade, Sunday, June 26, will be held without any last minute changes - although the nature of the parade has changed drastically.

In past years the parade has been a festive, at times licentious, event (to the embarrassment of some watching along the route). This year's Parade Committee decided early in their planning to curb public indecency and ruled out nudity. The sudden jettison of the Gay rights battle into the national media with Anita Bryant et al has caused deep concern throughout the Gay community here over the parade - fearing the repercussions of a bad press.

Since June 7 (the Dade County, Fla., repeal) with the nightly marches, protests, vigils - a new militancy has swept the San Francisco Gay community. And the Gay Parade was abruptly politicized.

Participants might grow by an additional 100,000 ... and all have been repeatedly urged to march with decorum and dignity. Many will carry flowers (reminiscent of the early peace marches in the mid-60's). There will be more

contingents of professional people and groups. Friends of Gays, family units ... mothers and children.

The number of monitors has been considerably increased with instructions to pinpoint disturbances and have police remove troublemakers (both marchers and bystanders).

The entire court of Emperor Hector will march in official uniform and serve as monitors.

It is expected that the parade will be peaceful - but deadly serious. Parade co-chairs Charles Lee and Carol Hilder will step off at noon at 2nd and Market Sts. The parade ends at Civic Center where a Gay Freedom Day Fair continues until sunset.

Gay Parade Changes Color

by Bruce Pettit

The parade will have approximately 80 contingents, including more than 40 floats.

"Gay Frontiers - Past, Present and Future" had been the theme of San Francisco's sixth annual commemoration of the beginning of the Gay liberation movement at Stonewall in 1969. But events in Dade County, Florida, have launched the movement into a distinctive Phase II. Suddenly the frontiers were blurred. The present had a creatively tense mixture of a bigotry of the past and a promising challenge

for the future.

Thus, a new sub-theme emerged last week.

"Human rights are absolute," President Jimmy Carter has decreed in a context of foreign relations. Now, in the context of their own rapidly changing times, San Francisco Gay people have made that statement their own vision for a domestic peace.

"Bring flowers to the parade," said Lee Mentley, program chair of the Gay Freedom Day Committee. "Let's make it a spectacle of unparalleled beauty. We are the Flower Children of 1977. In 1967 San Francisco put flowers into the guns of the oppressor. In 1977 we must put flowers into the MINDS of the oppressors."

Mentley's new Gays for Peace group sent flowers during this Gay Pride Week to city supervisors, the mayor, the sheriff, other elected officials and to such businesses as the two local daily newspapers. He appealed to Gay florists to make available to their brothers and sisters millions of flowers this Sunday.

Parade units were to be notified by telephone this week of where they were to assemble in the Mission and Howard Streets area east of 2nd Street. Assembly will begin at 9 AM Sunday, and the parade committee will have an informational booth concerning placement questions near Mission and 2nd Streets from 9 AM until noon, according to Jim Forman, parade secretary.

The committee is advising trucks pulling floats to change from low to neutral gear when not moving. Engine troubles resulted last year when vehicles were idle too long in low gear.

Margaret Sloane, past managing editor of MS. Magazine, has been confirmed as a Gay Fair speaker. She will address Gay rights and the Equal Rights Amendment, which, if ratified by three more states, will constitutionally prohibit discrimination based on sex.

The Goody Band, a seven-woman group from Sonoma County, will join with several men's rock bands to entertain the

crowds until 8:30 pm when many of them will participate in a giant sundown finale.

Unity Foundation of San Francisco and Omni Productions of Marin County will coordinate the stage production and design. In addition to about 40 Fair workshops and booths (informational, crafts, and games), Sukkers Likkers will supply refreshments (food, beer and soft drinks).

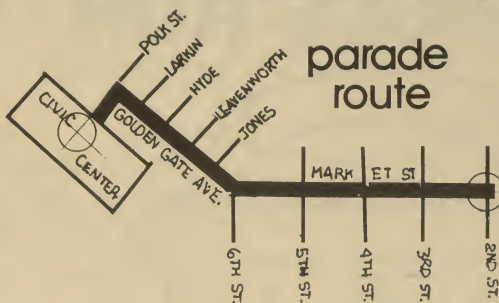
Press conferences have been held throughout this Gay Pride Week preceding the parade and fair, making an outreach on suggested positive ways straight media may present the phenomenon. The world will be watching, and assessments will focus not only on Gay people and their varied lifestyles but on San Francisco itself. One press conference was called by a new group formed in the two weeks since Miami - Straights for Gay Rights.

Gay Center Opens Officially

On Saturday, June 25, the Pride Foundation is having a "Not So Grand" Opening of its Gay Community Center at 330 Grove. Artists and craftspeople are urged to participate by arranging to display their arts. Those interested in showing their works may do so by calling at the Center and reserving space through Don Cofinger.

Festivities begin at 10 AM and will be open for the arts and crafts fair until 5 PM. The building will re-open for more activities and a celebration dance.

It is hoped that the Gay community will take the opportunity to see the Center and at the same time show off their abilities and creativity.



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That was seven years ago. Since that time we have made many improvements in our kitchen and dining facilities as we have strived to provide you with the ultimate dining experience.

We sincerely thank all of you who are our loyal customers and extend a cordial invitation to those of you who have yet to enjoy our fine food, drink, and friendly atmosphere. During our anniversary week we have planned many special events. Join us as we celebrate the beginning of our eighth year. To add to the excitement we have introduced a completely new menu.

Turning to the events of recent weeks, it is doubtful if anyone could have predicted seven years ago that today Gay Rights would become a national issue. We have come a long way. Today we see Gay Rights discussed openly in the nation's "straight" press. We see the extremist reaction of bigots viciously attacking us.

Thousands of people, including many of our customers, staff and friends have spent much of their time, energy and dollars to let the Nation know that Human Rights applies to ALL people. We thank these people for working so tirelessly to make this first step a reality.

We must continue to work if we are to realize equal rights in employment and housing for ALL of the people. We thank those elected officials in San Francisco whose efforts have been so vital -- Sheriff Richard Hongisto, Assemblyman Art Agnos, Assemblyman Willie Brown, Senator Milton Marks, and Mayor George Moscone.

Bob Trollope and the Staff of the *P.S.

The *P.S. urges you to support LARRY CASAS for MR. CIRCUS CIRCUS by buying the special raffle tickets for \$1.00 being sold by his committee. The *P.S. has donated a ROUND TRIP FOR TWO TO HAWAII as one of the prizes that will go to the winners of the raffle drawing. All proceeds from the sale of the raffle tickets go to Operation Concern, a mental health program operated and administered by gay people for the gay community.

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Gay-Baiter Suffers Setbacks

Senator John Briggs (Rep - Fullerton), riding on the crest of the homophobic victory in Miami, arrived in San Francisco last week to fan the flames of bigotry and his long-shot campaign for next year's Republican nomination for governor. He plans to introduce a bill into the legislature that would drive homosexuals out of the state's classrooms. Briggs had the confrontation with militant Gays as his staff had planned, but he also met with an antagonistic press who were not impressed with his tactics.

The Senator moved on to Sacramento where he asked his fellow senators to issue a commendation on June 15 to religious zealot Anita Bryant for her "courageous stand to protect American children from exposure to blatant homosexuality."

The State Senate, in a 36 to 2 vote, resoundingly defeated the resolution which was seen by observers as also a personal rebuke of its author.

James Mills (Dem. - San Diego), President Pro-Tem, said it was the Senate's pattern to reject policy resolutions if they concerned controversial issues outside California.

Otherwise, said Mills, the legislature would be caught up in "endless debates with everybody trying to think up some resolution to embarrass the opposite party."

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Miami Aftermath: New "Human Rights" Struggle Involves Thousands

by Bruce Pettit

Thousands of San Franciscans became activists for the first time. Men and women, radicals and moderates, professionals and street people - all Gay, but hundreds relating to each other for the first time - struggled but kept the peace for seven days in the face of terrible tension. Homophobic state Sen. John Briggs (R - Fullerton) nearly succeeded in breaking them June 14, but he miserably failed.

After the March of the Five Thousand on the first night, demonstrations and deliberations tumbled over and into each other for a week. "Organizers" of some demonstrations never showed up and fear swept the community that "outside agitators" were exploiting the volatile Gay feelings here, hoping to explode them and discredit the entire U.S. Gay movement.

Meetings called with less than 24-hour notices drew first 70, later hundreds of people. Finally, on the seventh day - Monday, June 13 - the Coalition for Human Rights got some grasp on the unity that more than 30 groups were reaching for - if only by containing that goal in a single name.

The Lesbian Rights Alliance was born Thursday, June 9. It sought improved local and national communications among Lesbians, but it also pledged outreach through media and political education committees to Gay men and all U.S. minorities in advancing a new era for Gay liberation.

Celeste Newbrough of LRA chaired the often raucous June 13 meeting that brought forth the Coalition. "The people who will lead this country in developing a high consciousness in human relationships will be Gay women and men by sharing our confidence in who we are."

Bubba Geiger, education chair of the new Save Our Human Rights, concurred. Although it took five hours for 1,000 people to decide on the Coalition's name, "We reached an agreement to work together, to lay aside our personal battles of sexism and racism."

But it was Jud Kohl, media chair of SOHR, who represented San Francisco on national television during those first dark days after Miami. A group of professional Gay men met June 8, "behind closed doors in the Castro," as one local station described it. To take advantage of the media's hunger for a substantive Gay response from the nation's Gay mecca, they moved quickly to call a June 10 press conference.

Kohl announced that Save Our Human Rights "by acclamation" had been accepted as San Francisco's united effort to withstand the national backlash. It would address itself to a massive educational effort.

The educational vision was twofold: (1) correcting public impressions that "homosexuals are all screamers and child molesters" and (2) beginning the message at home with all Gay people informing "families, neighbors and all who love them" that they are Gay - letting them know firsthand that there are Gay people who are "viable, responsible citizens."

Geiger insisted that opening up to families is vital for Gay brothers and sisters in the hinterlands "where Gay demonstrations never reach." He left Charleston, S.C., for San Francisco two years ago. "I represent people who had to travel all across the country to be able to live free, who they are." When Kohl needed a Gay person genuinely coming out publicly for the first time to appear on the Saturday night news of a local TV station, Geiger volunteered. "I tried to rationalize that I didn't need to be one of those who wrote home to my parents, telling them who I am. But I couldn't rationalize. I wrote. It was hard, but now I feel very good about it."

At the Monday meeting forming the Coalition for Human Rights, Geiger set up a table "for people who wanted to come out for the first time" by signing up to work with his SOHR educational committee. "It was phenomenal," said he. "Hundreds signed up - Ph.D's, people working in the financial district. They said they could lose their jobs over this, but after Miami and the repression ahead, they had no choice."

Although Save Our Human Rights was accurately claiming the most concrete results in the early post-Miami period, older groups - militant and moderate - viewed SOHR with some suspicion. Who were the new leaders? Would their high energy last? They were a collection of professional men, largely legal and media, who had never been Gay activists before. Yet everyone deferred to them in the first seven days. All acknowledged it was a new era, desperate for new ideas and full of new possibilities.

SOHR's political committee earmarked voter registration as its first target. It immediately allied with the brainchild of Jim Rivaldo of the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club. Rivaldo wants to register 25,000 Gay voters by July 4 simply to amaze local politicians about the potential power of Gay sentiment to make or break any issue or candidate.

A Benefit.

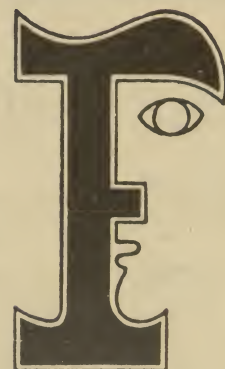
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Houston Comes Out

by E. Protopappas

A demonstration was organized on Thursday, June 16, in Houston, Texas, to protest an appearance of Anita Bryant before a convention of the Texas State Bar Ass'n.

More than six thousand angry, but peaceful, Gay people rallied at Depository II's large parking lot to hear speakers including actress Liz Torres of "Phyllis" and "All in the Family" fame, ADVOCATE publisher David Goodstein, Houston women's advocate Nikki Van Hightower, Catholic nun Jeannie Gramich, Rev. Troy Perry of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, Houston Gay activists Hugh Crell and Gary van Ooefgham. Following the rally, the crowd marched two by two for 15 blocks to the City Hall plaza. As they passed the Hyatt Regency Hotel where Bryant was entertaining, a large gathering on the steps of the Regency cheered the passing demonstrators. On the fringes of the crowd were a few anti-Gay hecklers carrying signs reading "Protect Our Children" and "Read Your Bible, Down With Queers." Inside the convention, twenty people wearing black armbands with inverted pink triangles stood up when Bryant began her performance and walked out. One protestor, Aglaia D. Mauzy, former wife of Texas state senator Oscar Mauzy of Dallas, said, "As a lawyer I have a duty to express my dissatisfaction with her views. They are analogous to those Hitler used to persecute the Jews."

Bryant made no direct references to the controversy during her performance; however, an anti-Gay rally led by Dr. Joe West, pastor of the Town East Baptist Church in San Antonio, attracted fewer than two hundred supporters of Anita Bryant and her position. West asked that Bryant's supporters display no violence toward the Gays or they may hit you with their purse or a powder puff. "We need," he continued, "to drink orange juice and put the squeeze on homosexuals."

The anti-Bryant demonstration included Dominican nuns, women carrying babies and men in wheel-

We may be near the day when Gay people no longer will make one another feel bad.

- Don Clark

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Anita Bryant had to come . . . the surprise was that she came upon us so cheaply, so completely. And yet, it is to all the people's good that the homophobic counter-attack managed to wrap itself up on such a foolish, hysteric woman. To crusade under her banner truly must be an embarrassment — for even the naive.

Some great causes had their Joan of Arcs, their Margaret Sangers, their Eleanor Roosevelts — their virgin queens. But to be led to the emotional, political and religious barricades by a fading bathing beauty must be a hard line to swallow. Sad for these lingering Christians to have a pop singer and a former TV disc jockey carry their bell, book and candle. To have their simple beliefs vaudevillized, trivialized.

Bob Green was being groomed as the next Dick Clark. He didn't make it. Anita was always a runner-up. She didn't make it. The ambitious, avaricious couple merely changed trains, and they found themselves on the Broadway Limited — the Big Time. Bigger and smaller than they could have ever anticipated, for they will not see the perversion of certain judaic, archaic injunctions take hold. Instead they will be the remembered pawns on a sociobiologic chessboard that plays inexorably and invincibly in the destiny of mankind — the churchmen who enjoined Galileo, the authorities who debated Darwin.

The lifestyle the Orange Queen and her consort so forlornly oppose is but the blueprint of tomorrow. The next greening of the species. It's no surprise that even the mainstream liberals oppose "flaunting the lifestyle." Not realizing that to "flout nature" is their sadder shortcoming.

The great difference in San Francisco's Gay Parade is that it will not be commemorating some yesterday but some tomorrow. Straightmen talk their utopias. Leave it to the Gays — of all sexings — to march for it. Proudly waving in the future.

P. Lorch

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Briggs does his thing amid jeers of the gays

BRIGGS GRABS ANITA'S SKIRTTAIL

by Wayne Friday

On June 14, Orange County Republican Senator John Briggs called a press conference on the



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steps of City Hall, and his staff busily notified the many Gay organizations around town to assure the conservative, little-known Senator a noisy reception, to announce the introduction of his "Save Our California Children" bill. Briggs, a minor candidate for Governor, clearly hoped to make political hay of the Miami outcome and decided to start smack in the middle of San Francisco, the "cesspool of sex," itself (so described by the bigoted Bryant forces). Briggs said, "I believe parents of California students want the right to keep their children from being exposed to homosexual teachers." While trying to speak above the shouts of angry Gays on City Hall steps, Briggs continued, "San Francisco Assemblyman Willie Brown's 1975 legislation decriminalized homosexuality in California. Thus homosexuals cannot be removed from California classrooms. I fought against that bill because I believe such a law was against the wishes of California parents. Under my legislation, these teachers can be removed from the classrooms by the local districts." When asked by the media why he chose the steps of City Hall on Polk Street to announce

such legislation, Briggs said that he felt he was giving people here a chance to question him. This was hard to do since a few Gays in attendance were intent on shouting him down. After his aides passed out copies of a press release, Briggs managed to say "this important bill provides a mechanism whereby the local school boards may conduct a special hearing to determine the homosexuality of a teacher. If a teacher is found to be a homosexual, my bill automatically removes them from the classrooms."

Briggs has a long way to go if he thinks seriously he can become Governor. The Senator told me that he had a commitment from Anita Bryant to come to California to give his campaign a much-needed boost. When I asked him the direct questions of her commitment to come here, Briggs replied, "Yes, Anita has assured me she will come to campaign." Briggs also flew to Miami the closing days of the campaign to capitalize on the problem there, but most people I have talked to who were there were unaware he was even there.

Later in the week Briggs introduced a resolution in the State Senate intended to commend Anita Bryant and her anti-homosexual crusade in Miami. The vote was 36 to 2 against the resolution; the only senator voting with Briggs was H.L. Richardson, another conservative Republican. San Francisco Senator Milton Marks spoke against the resolution. The Briggs campaign for Governor will never get off the ground unless he can find an issue that could catch fire, as he is no doubt hoping the "Save Our California Children" issue will. In fact, the news release he handed out at City Hall said it was coming from "Assemblyman" Briggs - later in the day when I spoke with his Sacramento office, a staff member, Bob Podesta, said it was a "clerical mistake." Podesta told me he didn't even know which Senatorial District Briggs represented. With people like that on his staff, I doubt the other Republicans in the race for Governor have much to worry about. One thing for sure is that the Gay issue is out of the closet as far as California gubernatorial politics is concerned. All of the candidates for Governor will have to make their positions known on the homosexuality issue one way or the other.

Other than Briggs, the least known of the Republican candidates, L.A. Police Chief Ed Davis, who will soon become a candidate, has made little secret of his dislike for Gays. In one of his early political speeches, Davis sounded a call to battle against what he termed "a liberal coalition of homosexuals, women and farm workers." He has since referred to Gays as "fruits, queers, and wierdos." The two leading candidates for the GOP

nomination, San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson and Attorney General Evelle Younger, seem to want to stay as far away as possible from the Bryant-Davis-Briggs point of view. Younger, the popular Attorney General and the only Republican elected to state office during the last gubernatorial election, said in Sacramento recently that a homosexual teacher "should not be fired as long as he behaves himself and does not try to get students to accept his particular preference or lifestyles." In Saratoga last week, Pete Wilson said, "I personally am troubled by that situation because I don't think any of us want to hassle anybody unnecessarily." Although Wilson didn't commit himself, persons in attendance felt he was sensitive and even sympathetic with Gay rights. Wilson continued, "I really think this is a difficult thing to legislate because you run up against two situations. You have someone who is an admitted, aggressive, militant Gay rights activist as opposed to someone who is Gay and minds his own business. I don't know how they would resolve that. I think that requires some care."

Up-Date On Props A & B

On Saturday, June 25, San Franciscans for District Elections will hold a massive mobilization in each of the eleven districts to distribute, door-to-door, literature and in their strength areas, voter registration postcards.

They plan to mobilize 750 people city-wide, distribute 100,000 pieces of literature and 50,000 voter registration postcards.

Following the mobilization, a workers' party will be held at the Machinists Hall, 1750 Market. Those wishing to join the mobilization may phone 285-3188 or 665-4050.

The repeal of Proposition T (Prop. A) and particularly Proposition B (the Barbagelata scheme) are increasingly viewed by Gay leaders as directed against the Gay community.

Prop. B would remove from office Mayor Moscone, D.A. Freitas and Sheriff Hongisto - so, too, Police Chief Charles Gain would go. All these officials are proven friends of the Gay community.

Last week, Lee Wakefield, Barbagelata's top aide for two and a half years and the man who authored the first draft of Prop. B, in an interview with the BAY GUARDIAN stepped forth and revealed the Machiavellian politics that prompted Prop. B. He called it a "very cynical move to change the (city) charter as a vendetta." He added, "It has nothing to do with honesty, forthrightness or principle."

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Dirty Tricks Start

by Paul Lorch

One of the seamier sides of American politics is muddying the waters in the opposition's camp. Causing confusion, interrupting communications, spreading false rumors. The tricks range from the amusing to the Watergate break-ins.

The emergence of Gay rights into the national arena is no exception. Letters are presently being sent to Black businesses in Oakland with the return addresses of local Gay businesses.

The one-page mimeo-

graphed sheet is a mish-mash of inanities and obscenities. Designed to stir up hatred and arouse fear - truly an outrage to a civilized society. In short, sick filth.

Several undeliverable pieces were passed on to the B.A.R., and we urge anyone receiving them or having pieces returned to the alleged sender to contact the B.A.R. so we can submit them to the Post Office authorities for investigation and handwriting analysis.

"Bye Bye Barbagelata"

San Francisco Federated Young Democrats said Good-bye to John

Barbagelata Wednesday, June 22, 12:15 pm at Aquatic Park (foot of Polk Street, directly behind the Maritime Museum).

Barbagelata has promised to retire from politics and move out of San Francisco if Propositions A and B are defeated on August 2nd. In anticipation of that defeat, Young Democrats were on hand to say farewell as Barbagelata's leaving San Francisco by boat was portrayed.

Free ice cream was provided.

To celebrate Barbagelata's departure, the Young Democrats will host a BYE BYE BARBAGELATA party to benefit the No on A and B campaigns Thursday, June 23, 8:00 pm, at the Old Waldorf, 444 Battery Street.

On hand to say good-bye to Barbagelata will be Mayor George Moscone, Sheriff Richard Hongisto, Assemblyman Willie Brown, and District Attorney Joe Freitas. Music will be provided by Red Rose Ranch. Admission is \$5.00 at the door.

What They're Saying

With the loss of the Miami beachhead, columnist after columnist has turned his attention to the Gay rights struggle. Suddenly we're grist for the editorial mill... with few knowing what they're talking about.

S.F. CHRONICLE's soft-core resident homophobe, Charles McCabe, on May 27 defined homosexuality "as the expression of hatred in sex." He referred to the Kinsey studies as "bloodymindedness."

Following the June 7 defeat he accused Gay activists of waging a hysterical campaign in Miami (contrary to all on-the-scene reports that the Dade County Coalition presented a high-toned, sober human rights approach - contrary to the gutter tactics of Save Our Children, who based their literature around child molestation). He repeatedly used the term "the boys" when talking of the Gay leaders and said we waged the wrong campaign at the wrong time and place. He had no suggestions as to where it should have been fought.

Nationally syndicated columnist William Safire in his June 12 contribution wrote, "The Gays wanted national publicity on this (Miami)," suggesting that work for the original ordinance and the battle against repeal was a publicity stunt. He insisted what Gay rights was all about was "the assertion by society that what they were doing was right."

That we were demanding moral approval. He compared Gay liberation to something like Activist Adults for Adultery, wanting their sex infidelities approved in the ballot box. So, too, "Gays should be permitted to teach, provided they do not avow their homosexuality."

Would he dare say in 1977 (although he might have in 1937), "Blacks should be permitted to teach, provided they do not avow their Blackness."

"If avowed Gays were to be teachers, the example they would set to children might well induce some toward emulation of their abnormality." The same line as Bryant's that we recruit.

The lily-white liberal isn't too far removed from the blue-nosed conservative when it comes to Gay liberation - we are reduced to a sexual act - usually sucking cock - and it's convenient to miss the point.

From Black syndicated writer Carl Rowan comes these statements on June 15, "Of all the appeals to bigotry still virulent in America, the one that shames me most is the newest: Anita Bryant's crusade against homosexuals."

"I've never argued with anyone about whether being homosexual is merely 'sexual preference' or is a physical or emotional handicap like being born with a cleft palate. All that matters to me is that the same Creator who put me on this planet also put a lot of homosexuals here, and I have no reason to believe that our Maker endowed me with any moral superiority."

Rowan continues, "It has become easy to attack homosexuals, to deprive them of basic rights, because they are now visible; boldly they have walked out of the shadows."

"I watch and hear this woman, and I know that the greater threat to this society, which struggles toward justice for all, is not the ordinary homosexual; it is the Anita

Bryant's who catch up so many gullible and unsophisticated Americans in their messianic madness."

Nicholas van Hoffman in an addled commentary from Washington, D.C., offered his own homophobic version this past weekend. Hoffman likes only invisible Gays and believes the "loud, flitty kind of male and the bulldyke type of female" are entitled to no rights protection. "An obnoxious fruity queen" should not be able "to move in where she's not wanted."

"Black rights had to be secured (unlike Gay rights)," he maintains, "because of the threat of violence and serious disruption." Following the Hoffman logic, a Gay Watts would coerce the straight citizens to cede the rights Gays are seeking.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Channel 38 Challenged GAY FOUNDATION COMPLAINS TO FCC

SAN FRANCISCO - The Council on Religion and the Homosexual, Inc., a locally-based non-profit organization, filed a Fairness Doctrine complaint last week against San Francisco's KVOF TV, Channel 38. KVOF is a religious broadcast station, operated by The Faith Center in Glendale, California. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

KVOF has repeatedly aired programs that present the views of Anita Bryant's Save Our Children lobby, opposing legislation designed to protect Gay people from discrimination in housing and employment. The station has refused to present the views of those who favor such legislation.

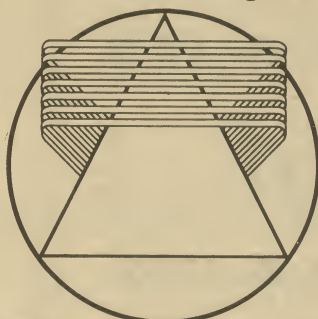
Specifically called into question are KVOF broadcasts of the nationally-syndicated "The PTL (Praise The Lord) Club," a North Carolina program which served as a major outlet for Save Our Children propaganda. The programs presented only one side of the controversial issue of Gay rights; urged viewers to lobby with their elected representatives against Gay rights legislation; solicited funds for repeal of the Dade County ordinance and for the mounting of a national campaign against Gay rights legislation; and argued against passage of the proposed federal Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

Under the FCC's Fairness Doctrine, all broadcasters including religious broadcasters must present "contrasting views on controversial issues of public importance."

Gay rights clearly is a controversial issue of public importance. At the federal level, Congress is considering legislation that would prohibit discrimination in housing and employment. In California, the legislature is considering several bills

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that affect Gay rights - positively and adversely. Numerous communities in the San Francisco Bay Area have adopted or are considering adopting ordinances that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual or affectional preference. Notwithstanding the clear-cut need for fairness in addressing this issue, KVOF has refused to present views other than those opposing Gay rights.

The Council was joined in its complaint by Human Rights Commissioner Phyllis Lyon; Rev. Charles W. Larsen, Pastor of SF's Metropolitan Community Church; and resident Bill Hartman.

Commissioner Lyon said of the KVOF broadcasts: "The Save Our Children crusade has resorted to emotionalism and to lying in their witch hunt against homosexuals."

"It is imperative for the cause of human rights," she continued, "that Gay people have a chance to answer the slanderous statements made by those who would deny ten percent of the population of this country the right to live in freedom."

Attorney Carol Jennings of the Washington, D.C., Media Access Project, represents C.R.H. and individual complainants in the FCC action. Jennings believes the chances are "excellent" that the Commission will rule favorably on the complaint and force the station to comply with public policy.

Although the complaint involves a single station, the FCC's decision could set a precedent that would affect broadcasters around the country. All broadcast licensees will be put on notice that henceforth Gay rights programming must be balanced.

A San Francisco FCC official commented, "From what I hear, it sounds like a legitimate complaint."

Violent Gay Murder/Beating

Two Gay men were set upon last night at 16th and Lexington at 12:30 AM, beaten and one was left dead.

They were followed from a drive-in restaurant on South Van Ness by a car full of young thugs. No more details were available at press time.

G.O.P. Gays

Editor:

Six Gays have been appointed to the Republican State Central Committee.

Three from Northern California: Tom Isenberg, businessman; Don James, hard-working ultra conservative, and B.J. Beckwith, attorney.

Three from Southern California: Robbie Appel, publisher; Robert Arthur, chairman of L.A. Community Guild, and Nicole Murray, Gay rights activist.

Tom Isenberg

Professional Women's Contingent

A professional women's contingent (both Gay and straight) will march in the Gay Freedom Day Parade. The group will march under their own banner to demonstrate their support of Human Rights.

Jayne Townsend, immediate past president of the San Francisco Chapter of NOW, is helping organize the group. "The purpose," she says, "is to point out that there are Gay professional women who should be open and unafraid."



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Milk Forum

Your Letter On The Fourth

by Harvey Milk

Not since the civil rights movement of the 60's has the nation talked about a subject with such passion and bitterness. Not even the Viet-Nam war - as passionate and bitter as that was - start-

ed with such fire. It may be a long, ugly battle. It already has caused violence. Sad to say, more will come.

The Black movement was won in the streets. The Viet-Nam war was stopped in the streets. We must learn from these struggles not to let our fight be carried into the streets. We should do all in our power to prevent inflicting the nation with yet another scar.

There is a solid action that everyone can do that might cut short the time it will take to win Gay rights. (Rest assured that OUR rights will be won just as the rights of every other group, who fought for theirs, was won.) The impact upon the President of the written word may help to reach that victory. Based on most estimates, there are some 15 million Gay people in the nation. Add to that total their parents. Their relatives. Their real friends. The total: multitudes. If each and every one of these people wrote a short letter to Carter the Fourth of July, the impact would be overwhelming.

THE LETTER

Each letter should say something about human rights. That since the President is concerned about the people of Russia and Brazil, why isn't he concerned about the human rights of some 15 million of his own people? Some of whom are beaten every day by police and punks. Some of whom are discriminated against at work. Every one of whom is discriminated against by their own federal government! That it is about time that the President spoke out on the issue of the human rights of 15 million Gay people in his own nation.

COME OUT

Of course, it would mean that many Gay people would have to take that hard step of "coming out" to their parents, relatives and friends. But the only other option is the long, bitter battle. A battle that will bring nationwide harm and waste. If everyone's family finally understands that it is their daughter and/or son whose rights are being taken away, who may be beaten in the streets for being Gay, then maybe they would write - write not for homosexuality but for the sake of their own kin. Coming out is a hard decision to make. But the impact of some 15-45 million letters mailed on that one day to that one person saying that one thing - well, isn't it worth the 13¢ stamp?

* * *

THOUGHTS ABOUT

WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE

Where to start? One long week - a week of support. Of unity. Badly needed. So badly needed. Of in-fighting, but of accomplishments. My strongest thanks to everyone who marched, be it

only Tuesday night or be it every night. It was needed on many levels. To get the anger out. To show that we WILL fight back. Saturday's march turned from anger to warmth and love. The movement had begun. The release was over and the long, hard fight was ahead. We shall overcome... the silent vigil at St. Mary's... seeing the ads that the anti-Gay people used against us and then reading of the heterosexual who killed three girl scouts. Should our publicity show this person and Charles Manson and rapists and muggers and Hitler and tell THEM that WE don't judge all heterosexuals by these extremists? Should our ads show drunken drivers and their damage and say that no one judges all who drink by these extremists? Should we show parents who beat their children and say that no one judges all parents by these extremists? Should we fight back on their gutter level to show the fallacy of their arguments? ... Should we, too, do gymnastics with the Bible? "Thou shalt not commit adultery." "Adultery is lust." "Punishable by being stoned to death." Will Anita Bryant throw the first stone at Jimmy Carter?

It can't happen here? Those of our community who told us there would be no backlash - sorry, David G., to say you were wrong on this. I wish it was the other way.

Our "friends"? ... why is there no money for the Gay Day parade? Many made that an issue with Moscone when he was running. Roger Boas, who gives out the money, is Moscone's appointee and was approved by our "friends" the Supes. Yet not a penny. More than one person went to Boas on this one. Maybe we should all just stop paying taxes and put the funds into escrow? Do we really have many "friends"? Hongisto? You bet! Right on the line. Willie Brown once again. They put their bodies on the dotted line. We must never forget. The list is too short to forget.

Why isn't Anita Bryant charged with inciting violence? That is a crime that has been committed. The moralists gave us prohibition - and the crime wave that came with it. The moralists kept Viet-Nam going - and the death and horror that went with it. The moralists still fight against "the weed" - and thousands of lives are ruined, while Nixon walks on the sands of California. The same moralists who pound the Bible and salute the flag say we are sick. If that be Christianity... thank God it is not! And the Pope! He wants his church holdings to be tax-free and tells us how to vote. There ought to be a law... there is - it's called the Constitution. Why doesn't the press, the anti-defamation league, the ACLU say out loud that this is exactly how Hitler got his start? Hitler danced a jig when his troops marched into

Poland. Bryant danced the same jig when she won the same media, to sell their product, pray for violence against anyone - even their parents?

Joe Coors. At least we are getting at him. Sales were down some 19% in the last month. Who says boycotts don't work? His money found its way to pay for some of those ads against us. Drink to your own discrimination...

How can the media print that some people, including legislators, want Gay people put to death!!!! Or are they printing it to tell us what is coming IF we don't watch out. It can't happen here. It damn well can't... Are you registered to vote? Dade County: 3 million people; maybe 4% of the population is Gay - that's 120,000 Gay people. We got 90,000 votes! And that is not counting friends. Are you registered? Either that 4% is a high figure (then watch out here) or the Gay community didn't even know or care enough to save their own jobs and lives. It can't happen here! Then why are we trying to register some 20,000 Gay people and so many are saying, "Oh, I'm not political." It's your life and you'd better re-read what Senator Hayakawa said about you! ... Write that letter to Carter. Speak to your parents. Your relatives. Your friends.

Last night another person was knifed in the Castro area. The punks yelled, "That's for Anita." In Miami a person who was working for us found his home broken up! Windows smashed. Furniture destroyed. Shit piled on his floors. His dog killed. Seig Heil!

AND YET...

More good was put out by the media on homosexuality to more people in three weeks than in the total history of mankind! More gays - still not enough - realized they had better get it together and are forming organizations that all across the nation to prevent another Dade County. It will mean taking time and funds away from the bars or whatever. But without it, it will happen here. Another plus: plans are in the works for a statewide Gay caucus next spring to hear all candidates for statewide offices and only their stands on Gay rights. If none show, none should get our votes. No more

"the lesser of two evils." ... Our battle will be won on one-to-one relationships, in the ballot box and on those millions of letters to Jimmy Carter.

Welcome to the latest human rights battle... this time it is ours!

Everyone has to choose a road, a refined or intellectual way, or a more brotherly, general way, trying to embrace the world around you, to discover the new world.

- Pablo Neruda

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Behind the Headlines

Out Of The Closets; Into The Streets

by George Mendenhall

It was to be a nice, quiet affair. Vice President Mondale would meet the "little people" at a Democratic Party reception. Outside, 500 Gay people had gathered to demand that Mondale make a positive statement in favor of equality for Gay people. The "outside" people were avoided as the Vice President rushed into the building through a side door. It was clear that he was not going to respond to the discontented demonstrators.

A smaller crowd inside gathered around Mondale and when he began to speak about "human rights" he was asked about the "human rights for Gay people" by a spectator. Rather than respond in a friendly and supportive manner, Mondale stood back and remained silent. This angered some and they began to shout. Mayor Moscone urged a Gay woman to come on stage and read demands she had been waving, but someone turned off the sound system. Mondale shook a few hands and left by a side door.

Associated Press, the television networks and editorial writers had fun with the incident about the "disruptive" Gay protestors. The OAKLAND TRIBUNE ran a front page photo of Gay males dancing on the stage after Mondale exited. The next day President Carter was asked about Gay rights and he responded that while homosexuality was not "normal" he thought that laws against Gay people were not acceptable.

The response to the Mondale incident within the Gay community was diverse. At a Northern Gay Caucus meeting of the California Democratic Council, long-time friends found themselves divided on the validity of such a confrontation. Two Gay Democratic Party officials thought that the Gay reaction was "embarrassing" and disruptive to our negotiations here and in Washington, D.C.

However, the general reaction of the 40 Gay Democratic activists present was best stated by Larry Long, Pride Foundation attorney, and David Goldman, dynamic Gay activist and teacher. Long chided Mondale for not making an immediate friendly overture to the crowd and expressed his excitement over the many new Gay groups evolving and the development of new Gay leadership. Goldman paralleled the Mondale incident with the silence by many Germans when Jews and Gay people were executed during World War II. He joined Long and others in expressing outrage that Mondale did not use the occasion to respond to a part of his constituency.

Goldman said that it was significant that while this federal administration is going around the world attacking other countries for their lack of "human rights," it remained silent about the human rights being denied in Miami. He said, and many others present agreed, that the inconvenience and embarrassment to Democratic officials was secondary to a minority's right to be heard and to receive a response.

Jim Sandmire, CDC Gay Caucus Chair, told the assembly that he was proud that Gay people marched in major cities across the country - by the tens of thousands - "with an amazing restraint." He encouraged more seasoned Gay activists to help the new developing leadership in the Gay movement.

* * * * *

In recent weeks, demonstrators have marched on St. Mary's and Grace Cathedrals, expressed their anger at Senator John Briggs' opposition to Gay teachers and spent many hours planning and organizing for future actions and reactions. Many activists will not be pleased with the results of this new upsurge in the movement. Some demonstrators will not be "nice" while others are attempting to work more quietly within the system.

Thousands of Gay people who have never registered to vote are now seeking a place on the front lines of Gay liberation. There will be trying times ahead for the movement and those who respond to it. As columnist Carl Rowan stated, "It has become all too easy to attack homosexuals, to deprive them of basic rights, because they have walked out of the shadows." Our response to Miami, a landmark that is as important as Stonewall, will be diverse, but it will end in victory. Let us be patient and supportive of one another along the way.

Gay bar owners can guarantee an atmosphere of dignity and respect and feel better about their own Gay identity - or continue the circus, watch the cash register, promote alcoholism, and lose self-respect. The sad Cinderella scene of today's Gay bars could end.

- Don Clark

Montage: Bits & Pieces

Cloud 7 has been thoroughly remodeled, brought in professional entertainment and will be offering \$2.69 suppers.

Caracole has lured the stirring Faye Carol to its large upper room Thursdays through Saturdays, and she's packing 'em in.

Marlene Fontenay wowed them at Le Domino and will be followed by Bobbe Norris - direct from New York with the songs of Rogers & Hart and Cole Porter.

The Endup featuring Sylvester in a Benefit for Barry King, supe candidate in District 4, after the Gay Fair on June 26. Sundays, the Harrison St. hotspot offers a concert hour from 4 to 6 followed by a Jockey Shorts Dance Contest.

The Mondale "confrontation" at the Hall of Flowers one more convenient tempest in a teapot. Convenient avenue for liberal homophobia who applaud handicapped protestors taking over federal buildings but object to Gays asking to be heard.

On July 4th Sylvester

and company, along with Messiah, kick off a benefit to elect Barry King Supervisor (an evening of continuous entertainment at California Hall).

Kimo's on Polk an instant success. The Balcony on Market off and running. Bear Hollow to hit Castro hard with their restaurant, bar and outdoor patio.

BAGL celebrates Gay Freedom Day, Sunday, June 26, with a dance from 7 to midnight at 32 Page. Beer, wine, and pleasant people.

A Harvey Milk Fun(d) Raiser June 24 at 330 Grove. The following day, the Community Center holds its "Not So Grand" Opening from 10 AM to 5 PM.

Milk, who has been in the thick of the "happenings" from the moment the Dade County returns hit S.F., is urging all participants in the Gay Freedom Parade NOT to give the Bryant forces any more ammunition.

Third World Gay Caucus

The Caucus is an association of third world Gay men and women who have

a common interest in improving the quality of life in the third world Gay community. We seek to work together on the problems and concerns of third world Gay people as they relate to the alleviation of racism and sexism in our community. We see ourselves as an issue-oriented organization. The Caucus welcomes all third world Gay persons who wish to work with us.

The Caucus was founded shortly after the Third World Gay Conference in December, 1976. We are a non-profit organization, and are in the process of obtaining that status legally. Participation in the Caucus is limited to third world men and women only.

Our meetings are on the first and third Thursdays of each month. We meet at members' homes. Notices are mailed to all members. The meetings are open and informal and the format is simple. There are no officers - we decide and act as collectively as possible.

Our activities to date: mediating a dispute that existed with the Ad Hoc Committee for the Investigation and Exposure of Racism, establishing the Gay Asian Support Group, and the Cultural Evening. Other activities are planned.

Our mailing address: Third World Gay Caucus, 619 Montclair Ave., Oakland 94610.

Summer Movement Workshop

A Movement - Expression Workshop for Gay women and men will begin Tuesday, July 12, at 4:30 PM at the Gay Center, 330 Grove St. This six-week workshop will focus on movement and expression.

Instruction includes individual and group body awareness and energy use, yoga and breathing exercises, sound and movement games, spatial awareness and massage. Using theater and dance structures and games, the participants will experience an awakening of the body as an expressive energy.

The workshop continues through August 20. Classes meet Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 PM, Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, and Saturdays from 12:00 to 1:30 PM. The fee for six classes (one class per week for six weeks) is \$15.

Each vigorous class is conducted in a supportive and relaxing atmosphere. Participants need no experience in dance or theater; open to women and men who want to move, express and use their energy. Especially useful for those who want to connect physically with their bodies. To register call Alan Estes at 621-0805 in the mornings.



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Gay Freedom Day Parade and Fair.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1977

Parade starts at NOON, Second Street and Market. It concludes at the Civic Center, followed by a FAIR from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Parade is Part of the National Gay Pride Week
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Politics & People

Impact Of The Miami Vote

by Wayne Friday



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In the eyes of the law in most places, homosexuals have the same rights as other members of society; and the issue that the voters of Dade County had before them was whether Gays should have added protection against discrimination in jobs and housing. As it is, private employers and landlords in most places may lawfully discriminate against Gay people in the same way they may act arbitrarily against people who are left-handed, New York Yankee fans or Republicans. While statistics of overt or covert discrimination against Gays are becoming, slowly, more and more non-existent, few doubt that discrimination and harassment of Gay people sometimes occurs in even more ways that do not happen to left-handed persons, Yankee fans or Republicans. Nor is there much dispute that the fear of being found out leads

many homosexual men and women to camouflage their sexual preference. A number of federal, state and local laws proscribe discrimination in employment or housing on grounds of gender, race and religion, and residents of Dade County were given the chance to decide, via the voting booth, whether a person's sexual preference should be added to that list.

In Miami, the overwhelming majority led by the bigoted Anita Bryant and her "Save Our Children" crowd (with a lot of help from the tax-exempt churches) voted to repeal a county ordinance that banned discrimination in employment and housing based on a person's "affectional or sexual preference." The impact of that Miami election is still to be felt. Because so much attention was focused on the Miami referendum, many lawyers, civil liberties groups, and other groups espousing the rights of Gays feel its outcome will affect what happens in other jurisdictions. E. Carrington Boggan, a New York lawyer active in the area of Gay rights, feels that since the ordinance was repealed "it will be more difficult to get anti-discrimination legislation passed elsewhere." An example of that is right here in California where Art Agnos has decided to delay attempts to get pro-Gay legislation passed - something Agnos feels he could have done if the Gays had won the Miami vote. On the other hand, Boggan says that if the ordinance in Dade County had been upheld, many would have seen it as "clearly an impetus to get more such legislation enacted."

The issue has been debated in dozens of jurisdictions in the past few years. So far, no state legislatures have passed such a law. Nor has Congress. More than 40 cities, including San Francisco, Detroit, Minneapolis and Washington, D.C., have passed ordinances similar to the one repealed in Miami, while several other cities, including New York, have rejected such bills. Bryant, the self-appointed messenger of God, drunk with victory, and having danced a jig reminiscent

of one Hitler once danced, immediately announced she would take her "Save Our Children" to most of those cities listed about to get those ordinances repealed. Without such ordinances as those in San Francisco which can be difficult to enforce, Gays are given little protection against private employers or landlords who discriminate against them. As a rule, government employers may not discriminate against employees on the basis of their sexual orientation. The constitutional requirement that governmental agencies act fairly to all citizens applies to local, state and federal agencies, but the principle has developed most fully at the federal level. Since 1975, when it changed its policy, the U.S. Civil Service Commission has said that people may not be found unsuitable for federal employment "solely on the basis of homosexual conduct." The new guidelines, however, still contain prohibitions against hiring Gays in the FBI and CIA, to say nothing of the military. But the Fourteenth Amendment guarantee that the government shall not deny to any person "the equal protection of the law" has not been construed to force governmental agencies to act identically toward all people, especially Gay people. In employment, courts have ruled that people may be treated differently so long as these differences bear a "rational" relationship to the work done.

It is under this rubric that some courts have held that it is acceptable to exclude Gays from certain teaching jobs. Their rationale is that students may be unduly influenced by their teachers' sexual preference. It was, of course, the Gay teachers issue that Bryant used most successfully in Miami. In the area of housing, excepting the relatively small number of cities that have enacted Gay anti-discrimination ordinances, Gays may be barred from private housing without legal recourse. Where the housing is public or federally subsidized, Gays are given more protection, but it is far from absolute.

The vote in Miami may also either retard or accelerate the trend across the country toward repealing the state statutes that made sodomy a crime, at least when between consenting adults in private. Although homosexual acts are still punishable by sentences up to 15 years in some states,

18 states no longer restrict sexual acts in private between consenting adults, either heterosexual or homosexual. The trend toward repealing sodomy statutes began about five years ago and does not seem to have been slowed by the Supreme Court's action last year summarily affirming a lower court's decision upholding the constitutionality of Virginia's law barring consensual sodomy. Many state legislatures and courts have apparently ignored it. In a recent decision, the New York State's highest court suggested - without ruling on the merits - that in some situations the statute banning consensual sodomy between unmarried adults might be unconstitutional. The court, which made no reference to the Supreme Court decision, seemed to be saying that such behavior should not be unlawful so long as it does not directly offend a third party. But last year's action by the Supreme Court has had some impact, even though there was no written opinion. It has seemingly become harder to make the argument that sexual orientation is a fundamental right protected by the Constitution.

It will be some time before the true impact of the Florida vote is realized in other parts of the country, especially as to its impact on pro-Gay legislation.

Granted, the Bryant forces won an important battle, local though it was, but at the same time I think Bryant made a tactical error in announcing that she would take her hate campaign to other cities. For one thing, the Gays have made it clear that wherever she goes, they will be waiting for her. Since the Miami election, she has appeared in Texas, Norfolk, Chicago, and other places and in each case she was met with thousands of Gays - Gays who were always there but were not necessarily visible. The result is that city officials, police, and ordinary citizens in those cities now know that if Bryant hadn't shown up, the Gays would not be marching, tying up traffic, and creating problems for the police and the city fathers. Hence, the solution is not to make Bryant welcome in other cities, and the word has already begun to get to her to, in effect, stay home. Many small cities have always known they had sizable Gay populations, but it would now take the appearance of the bigot Bryant to bring

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those Gays out into the open and create problems for those cities. I really expect Bryant to slowly drop out of the Gay rights fight. She appears weak, cowardly, and paranoia has begun to set in. Bryant complains that she needs such heavy security, that she can't bring her family on out of town trips - well, the lady started all of this herself, and I hope the Gays across the country continue to meet her wherever she goes; maybe she will get the message. Obviously, she is getting more than she had bargained for. Even the Florida Citrus Commission has begun looking for an easy way to get rid of her. One official of the Commission said he wishes she would "just simply resign."

The impact of the Florida vote has reached all the way to the White House. This past weekend, after being forced into doing so by the Gays in San Francisco confronting Vice President Mondale, President Carter issued a somewhat vague statement in which he said he does not view homosexuality as a "threat to the family," which was, in effect, one of Bryant's strongest arguments in the Miami campaign. Carter continued that "I don't feel it's (homosexuality) a normal inter-relationship. But at the same time, I don't feel that the society, through its laws, ought to abuse or harass the homosexual. I think it's one of those things that is not accepted by most Americans as a normal sexual relationship. In my mind it's certainly not a substitute for family life..." When asked pointedly if he would be upset to learn that his daughter Amy was being taught by a Gay, Carter ducked the question saying, "That's something I'd rather not answer," adding that it was something he didn't want to involve himself with. The President claimed that he had enough problems without taking on another (problems on human rights in the Soviet Union and Brazil, no doubt).

If nothing more, the bigoted Bryant has brought the reality of homosexuality and its oppression onto the front pages, but the true impact of the Miami vote is still to be felt.

POLITICS & POKER...

Vote NO on A & B August 2nd ... Joseph Kennedy, the oldest (24) of Bob Kennedy's sons, will seek the Demo nomination for Mass. State

Treasurer ... latest of the Anita Bryant jokes: "The OJ Bigot was out taking her regular afternoon walk and got hit by a speedboat." - Rod McKuen heard one that mentioned one of Bryant's old hit songs entitled "In My Little Corner of the World" - "And that's where she is now," quipped McKuen... Sylvester will appear at the Endup Sunday night, June 26, during the Benefit Party for Supe Candidate Barry King ... most of the Gay bars here are pushing the voter registration drive ... even some of Jim Foster's "friends" are wondering out loud how effective his "leadership" was in Miami - if we lost by better than 2 to 1 with all that "leadership" down there, think of what would have happened if our Miami brothers and sisters had not had the benefit of our S.F. "leadership"... Bella Abzug and Ed Koch splitting the Gay vote in the New York mayoral race ... friends of Harvey Milk will hold a Fun(d) Raiser tomorrow night (the 24th) at the Gay Community Center - dinner, dancing, etc., all for \$7.50 ... Okay, Mr. Mayor, get off your political ass and get the Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee some funds to help the monitors of that parade - and don't tell me that one phone call from the Mayor's office to Roger Boas won't take care of it - remember, George, there IS an election on August 2nd ... Gil Graham, a third candidate for City Attorney, seeking Gay votes ... those Gays who supported Hayakawa for senator strangely silent on Sam's most recent attack on Gays ... not all GOP senators feel the way Hayakawa does - Ed Brooke of Mass. and Jake Javits of N.Y. both issued strong pro-Gay statements ... Bob Kunst, the Miami Gay rights activist, expected in town this weekend ... popular bumper sticker in N.Y.: "No More OJ From The Unshine State" ... Rev. Billy Graham walked away from the Bryant campaign implying he doubted Anita's reported conversations with God - Graham said he personally "didn't feel particularly called upon by God to crusade against homosexuality" ... Barbagelata and family vacationed in Hawaii before coming back for his big Prop. B battle ... some of Bob Mendelsohn's original supporters becoming embarrassed by the repeated delays in "Fighting Bob's" confirmation ... Sheriff Hongisto's solid backing with S.F.

Gay community even stronger after his trip to Miami ... Milton Marks' wife Carolene still being urged to run for Supervisor ... Jim Ostlund's "Get Down Tonight" function to raise funds for AB 1302 and pay for Gay rights lobbyists a huge success ... people who read the original file on the recent cover story NEWSWEEK did on the Anita Bryant-Gay controversy claim the editors bore down on the wishy-washy side so that the result came out as something of a whitewash of Bryant. "She said so many incredible things that could have really hung her that NEWSWEEK didn't print," said one reliable person that read the report. The Gay activists have put NEWSWEEK on their unfriendly list ... A personal note: if I have to walk the streets again in support of Gay rights, I hope it will be with Chuck Lee of the SENTINEL - a fine guy and a new friend - see you all at the parade on Sunday; put on a good, decent show - remember,

Third World Festival

The Third World Gay Caucus is planning a Third World Gay Music Festival on Saturday, June 25, from 9:00pm until 3:00am at 32 Page St. A two dollar (\$2.00) donation will be requested. Refreshments - beer, wine and apple juice - will be on sale. The public is invited and welcome to join us in our celebration of culture during Gay Pride Week.

The purpose of this Music Festival is to present to the community more Third World Gay artists and musicians ... The Caucus intends to continue doing cultural work; and through cultural evenings and festivals, we hope to bring about greater community awareness of our artists and offer a forum for these talented people.

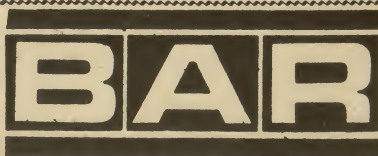
To date we have enlisted the following local talent: The Orquestra Salsoneda (Women's Salsa); Blackberri, a popular folk singer; Gwen Avery and Jerene Johnson, dynamite singers and musicians; and a new and exciting popular singing group and band, Jerry Kirby and Messiah.

For further information, phone Jeryl Saulter at 451-3817.

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Imperator et Rex

Human Rights Gala -

by Hector

Returned from a Coronation trip to the South Bay just in time for Jim Ostlund's "Get Down Tonight." Jim and his forces had a beautiful success and have moved us one step closer in our campaign for Gay rights. Congratulations to all who participated in "Get Down Tonight" - one more indication that we are mold-

ing the spirit of Gay pride! The Gamecock Court will host an IMMENSE GALA at the Galleria on Saturday, July 23, in support of the Northern California Human Rights Advocates and Save Our Human Rights. Although AB 1302 has been tabled, it does not mean that we can stop now. We must

continue with all our energy to insure that we don't slide backward. It is essential that we maintain our lobbying in Sacramento and continue the pressure we have exerted in the past. I am depending on the Bay Area Gay community to spread the word on our Human Rights GALA and am hopeful that you will urge ALL your friends to support this event. We will feature Disco Dancing, a no-host bar and all sorts of festive happenings. In short, it's going to be THE PARTY!!!

Coming up July 9 is the Gamecock Court bus trip to Reno! We still have space and the price is only \$20 plus low hotel rates. The ticket to the Reno Coronation Ball is \$8.00 and includes a silver dollar memento at the door. Our Reno package also includes gambling packets and, all in all, a weekend to remember. This is our lowest priced trip ever, so call right away (626-9081)! We leave from Castro Station at 9:00 am on Saturday and return early Sunday night.

The candidates for Emperor will be selected at a public meeting of the Candidate Review Board at 8:00 pm on Wednesday, July 20, at the Community Center, 330 Grove. Although any questions by the public must be in writing, we are looking forward to a nice contingent of Emperor applicant well-wishers. Applications can be obtained by phoning me. Since I have been named Chairman of the Review Board and have been assigned the task of application distribution, you must contact me... no other source is available.

Remember... the Gamecock Court GRAND GALA at the GALLERIA, #1 Kansas St., on Saturday, July 23... a benefit for YOUR RIGHTS!!! TELL EVERYONE!!!

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The Word "Gay" - What Does It Mean?

SELF-INTERVIEWS - 4

BY JACK WARNER

Q. We are talking about a letter which claims that true gayness no longer exists.

A. I have said that I think it does. Gay wit and sophistication are just as much in evidence now as they were some 30 to 50 years ago. Gayness as a style is still around, too. I speak of "wit" and "sophistication" and "style" because they are the words used by the letter-writer. Perhaps I should say something about why I feel qualified to speak on this subject. The writer has suggested in his letter that I am too young to know about the people and the times very well. I was there. I was one of those people. Moreover, when I was young I was very close to an older gay man whose memories of gay life stretched back another dozen or so years beyond mine. That is why I know that a large part of what the letter-writer says is true. I disagree with him, however, when he says that that kind of gayness died along with a generation of older men.

Q. But you agree with his description of what those gay men were like?

A. Yes - with one major exception. There is one part of his description that I would like to question. Let me quote from the letter: "Gay" was a high style and required not only education in many areas but constant awareness of what is going on. In general the truly 'gay' groups were from middle and upper classes." I assume that the letter-writer is talking about American gay men. English gay men might fit this description - at least in the period the writer is talking about. But American gay men? I am not persuaded.

Q. Do you think the writer is suggesting a kind of snobbishness?

A. That is what it sounds like. And I am having trouble trying to reconcile snobbishness with the meaning of "gay" which we have been discussing. I am aware that snobbishness existed among gay people. I assume that it still exists, although it may take a somewhat different form nowadays. After all, there are many kinds of gay people. To my way of thinking, the passage I have quoted would be a good description of what we used to call "elegant queens," but I can't believe that elegant queens ever epitomized gayness. For one thing, they never constituted a very large segment of gay people. For another thing, they kept pretty much to themselves - which means that they probably didn't know all that much about what being gay meant to other gay people.

Q. Maybe we are doing the letter-writer an injustice when we apply the word "snobbishness" to his statement.

A. I don't think so. A snob is someone who has an offensive air of superiority about him, particularly regarding matters of taste or knowledge, and the statement specifically mentions education and the middle and upper classes. If this statement is to apply to what it means to be truly gay, then we must eliminate vast numbers of gay people. Worse, we must assume that those vast numbers of gay people lack sophistication and wit. In my experience, that is just not so. I can't feel that any one group of gay people is any more gay than any other group. Why establish some kind of elitism? It is self-defeating.

Q. Perhaps an illustration?

A. I am thinking of a certain gay bar that thrived in North Beach before, during, and after World War II, the period the letter-writer speaks of. All kinds of people went to that bar - except, perhaps, elegant queens. There was nothing about the place that suggested any kind of class structure - upper, middle, or lower. Everyone belonged to only one class - gay. The education standard simply didn't apply: there were college professors and there were first-grade drop-outs. A man with a suit and tie sat next to a man with torn dungarees. But the meaning of "gay" that I have been talking about could have been recognized in that bar every night of the week. The place was famous for its wit and humor. The people there had a kind of sophistication that would be hard to match anywhere else in town. And that indescribable tone of the place must be called style, no matter how you define the word. What I am suggesting here is that our interpretation of what "gay" means cannot be so easily pinned down. It doesn't belong to a single class of people, and it isn't limited to certain kinds of taste.

Q. That bar was considered pretty low-down by some people.

A. By the elegant queens, no doubt. There is your snobbishness. But I will tell you this: I think those people who went to that bar came far closer to epitomizing gayness than elegant queens ever did. The place was a true melting pot. Those people who used to talk about the melting pot of democracy should have experienced this bar. There were all kinds of people, and when they were in the bar they were all equal. Everyone had a good time. Everyone there was "gay" in all meanings of the term. Out of that place, too, came the first stirrings of what we now call the gay liberation movement.



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**Now Will You Get Off
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Southern Scandals

Some six or seven years ago when I first started writing this column, it was to my utter chagrin and dismay that certain members of the bike-leather-levi-western set both here and in Los Angeles took it upon themselves to castigate and chastize me for DARING to mention their club name, or THEIR name, or even to mention that certain bike-related functions were being held at Seaman's Hall on Fremont St. I had to refer to that hallowed place of many, many successful fund-raising biker events as "the Hall on Fremont Street." Bikers from L.A. put the pressure on bikers of San Francisco to "silence" me about their activities down there. This was a case of pure closet-ry, and, thank God, such pressures no longer exist. These days organizations and many individuals become upset when I fail to mention their particular event. Without breaking my arm to pat myself on the back, I truthfully feel I helped this particular group of men come out of their "leather closets." I felt no qualms about being elected Emperor of San Francisco when I was an employee on the mayor's staff at City Hall, and seeing myself on television or in newspapers and magazines not only here but in other cities in the U.S. and abroad.

This weekend, Gay solidarity, Gay pride and Gay unity are on parade. The news cameras of the world will record for posterity this demonstration, this celebration, this outpouring of Gay Power. All Gay lifestyles, all subcultures of OUR world should be represented: Lesbians, leather men,

drag queens, businessmen, doctors, lawyers, airline clerks, pilots, bus drivers, barbers, beauticians, salesmen, bikers, royalty, radicals, feminists, friends of Gays - all in a show of unity. All in a celebration and an assertion that by our birth alone in this country, we want, we have a right to, and we demand all human rights guaranteed to us by a document called the Constitution. We demand equal rights just as the Blacks, the browns, the reds, the yellows, and every hue of humanity. I hope to see ALL of you there. I hope to see the bikers, and the leather men and the cowboys and levi men. And I hope and pray you will remain calm, peaceful, and for once not try to be outrageous, overly campy or cause anyone embarrassment or shame. This is OUR national pride day. This is our chance to raise the consciousness of many people who are ambivalent about Gay Human Rights. Don't blow it! Make San Francisco's straights PROUD of their Gay population. And if you are still in the closet, and still afraid to march with us, perhaps after the parade you will say to yourself, "Now I WILL get off my ass and fight for MY rights!"

* * *

South of Market's newest uniform club, The Phoenix, hosts a beer bust Saturday, June 25, at the Ramrod, honoring the K-9 Corps of Los Angeles, a new uniform club from that city. A large turnout is expected and the \$2 entry fee will get you all the beer you can drink, edible hot dogs and a special button commemorating the event. The



Philip Borden and Bill O'Connell at home in San Francisco during filming of Wakefield Poole's docufantasy "Take One"

whole affair takes place from 7:30 to 10 PM and promises to be one of the leather/uniform events to be talked about. Welcome to the K-9 Corps; you'll love our city, our men and our Gay pride.

* * *

Bikers who were planning to attend the Recon M/C run to the Russian River this weekend are advised that the run has been canceled. An informed source within the club itself stated refunds will be given to those who paid already and the cancellation was due to "conflict in scheduling causing poor participation."

* * *

STIR-TEGIC FARE (COMMAND) . . .

Coach Everett Hedrick's basketball team was in the spotlight last Thursday at Kezar Pavilion when they provided a most effective offense to the SFPD All-Stars in a thrilling basketball game before an estimated crowd of some

2,000-3,000 spectators. The final score was 100 to 85, but the cops had to fight for that score. An unnamed woman sang the national anthem in a very Aretha-like styling and the game was on. Without singling out any one player, your Gay brothers probably shocked the cops into a driving, relentless defense game and the crowd's enthusiasm was at high-pitch throughout. As for the SFPD All-Stars, it would not be unfair to say that the player wearing No. 2 on his jersey evoked the most comment not only for his fantastic performance on the court, but his sex appeal . . . if you know what I mean . . . On Sunday night, Jim Ostlund of Castro Station, proved his friends and supporters were loyal when the doors at 330 Grove opened for the "Get Down Tonight" benefit. A huge crowd witnessed the beguiling Lisa Cardinale of Los Angeles and Jane Doe, our beautiful Empress, perform some fine numbers. Disco Magic provided the great sounds, volunteer bar-

tenders worked untiringly and everyone had a good time. The room was ablaze in colored balloons filled with helium, and Ms. Tulip of the Grubstake had several attached to his braids. The benefit for the now-shelved AB 1302 will help our lobbyist in Sacramento and thanks for the turnout . . . Last year's Miss Cowgirl, Tenderloin Tessie, has been invited to Fort Worth, Texas, to crown their first Mr. Cowboy and Miss Cowgirl by Hurricane Hazel and John Silva. Looks like Houston ISN'T the last frontier after all, doesn't it? . . . My thanks to Sweet Lips for noting that I have an outstanding obligation to the Hyatt Union Square Hotel; the manager of the hotel is most interested in who on his staff has the gall to publicize such things in violation of credit confidentiality, and I guess I'll just have to tell him. Thanks for the plug anyway, Ms. Lips; you were always one I could depend on . . . If you're planning to run for Emperor of San Fran-

Inside Section X:

• PERSONAL ADS AND MAIL ORDER PRODUCTS GALORE

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SECTION X PULLOUT

cisco this year, the deadline for applications is Midnight, July 14. The Candidate Review Board will meet at 330 Grove on July 20 and all are invited to see the applicants and hear their statements. If you miss that inquisition, you can see them on Aug. 3 at the New Bell, Aug. 17 at Febe's, and Sept. 7 at Mark Calhoun's Starlight Room. The race should be interesting this year, but the odds are running in favor of only one candidate so far. I suspect the issue will be what you can do for human rights, which sounds like a great idea to me... My heart-felt congratulations to Don & John of Febe's on the 11th anniversary of their bar, certainly a San Francisco landmark and a steady winner on the Miracle Mile. Also like you to know that Don gave MCC Church a \$500 donation the other night in appreciation for their blessing of the many bikes christened there. With people like the Febe's family in our midst, is there any doubt in your mind that we WILL overcome? ... Be sure to

watch for the grand re-opening of the GOLDEN RIVET any day now. Jack promises the Rivet will be jumping.

* * *

GRIN AND BARE IT ...

Hope you were able to get to the BOLT's fund raiser for the SOHR (Save Our Human Rights) Committee last night. Colonel Clinque was his usual trashy self and everyone had a good time... If you're looking for something in a unique gift or for yourself, you should drop into THE OTHER SIDE, a great shop at 3870 - 24th St. Say hi to the proprietor, Christopher Priestly - he's a hot man who will assist you with anything you need. Tell him I sent you too... On a date yet to be named, the LEATHERNECK will stage a benefit for SOHR and you can bet when Allen Lowery puts his mind to a great idea, it comes off with success. Watch for the announcements of this event too... KIMO'S has opened on Polkstrasse and the crowds seem to be taking

a great liking to the place, except for one bartender who insists on sleeping in his coffee at the Grubstake after his shift. The smiling Harry Gardner is on duty and a hunky transplant from Trinity Place, Paul, keeps the crowd VERY happy... Want to see a person who is truly a tambourine-ist, check out Mama Billy at the WILD GOOSE most nights, he certainly augments the sound track from STAR WARS to a fever pitch, but you can ask Bobby Kerns about that... The Barbary Coasters run is July 30-31 - the theme this year, A Night at the Opera. Later on, the Constantines will stage their run. The theme: Renaissance Era; and that should be hot too... Don't forget Circus-Circus is Sunday, July 31, and hope you've bought your ticket for the 75 T-Shirt Raffle; they're only \$1 and going fast... Febe's monthly zodiac sign party for Cancer is July 14, and if you aren't there, you won't get one of those fantastic zodiac pins they give away... The royalty set of Reno

stage their Coronation on Saturday, July 9, and a huge contingent is going by bus, so it should be fun... Watch Jane Doe's float in the parade. It will BLOW your mind... Great vibes from Rocky, John, Chris and Chuck at the Leatherneck - right on!... Jack Arico of the Round Up is planning this big Military Ball there soon, so get out your old uniforms and get set for a big party... Superstar Wayland Flowers has been signed to open on October 4 at the Country Cousin in London (England) and would you believe there are some people planning to attend from here?... Loved Dirty Dick's column in the latest issue of Data Boy. That places you in a category of all the other "isms," mainly, ageism - you should get a new joke book, however, darling... Watch for the opening of the AARDVARK, a new used clothing store on Clement - when you meet Rick Romero, you'll do a lot of shopping there, if now browsing... Just got a flash that Harry Gardner will run for reelection of the Mr. Circus-Circus title - support these candidates; Operation Concern needs the money... Jack Campbell, the Dade County Coalition headliner, in town in preparation for a new publication (magazine), and our thanks for your efforts in Miami, Jack... Congratulations to Greta Grass, the new Queen Mother of ALL California. Many thanks to Dowager Mama Peck for all your fundraising efforts during your reign - you did a great job and a were a truly fine representative throughout the state... Drop in to SHIRLEY'S ETC. at 1550 California St. for plants, glassware, crystal and gifts... Friday, Friends of Harvey Milk for Supervisor present a Fun(d) Raiser at 330 Grove - tickets are only \$7.50 and hope to see you all there.

* * *

That's wrapping it up. Remember, Sunday, June 26, noon at 2nd & Market, Gay Pride is on parade. I hope you will tolerate

(each other's lifestyle); I hope you will cooperate (with the monitors and security people); I hope you will participate. God be with you all in these trying times.

Love all of you,
MISTER MARCUS

Wakefield Poole's "Take One": A Docufantasy

"TAKE ONE" is a film about eight homosexual men, their lifestyles, professions and sexual fantasies. These men are inter-woven into an intricate tapestry of reality, drawn from their commitment to the film. Each slice-of-life is brought together while the individuals are simultaneously attending a San Francisco Gay theater. It is at this point that a decided change in the film's approach transforms reality into fantasy, as the men in the audience realize they are watching themselves on screen. The climax of the film is a translation of the men's fantasies with a montage of sexual encounters in the theater.

Unauthorized Flyers

The Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee was informed today that flyers are circulating in the Gay community that might cause some confusion. Charles Lee, co-chair, stated, "We take no responsibility for anonymous flyers." One read that marchers had to dress in a certain way. Said Lee, "People may wear whatever they like. Hopefully, they'll keep constantly in mind that the eyes of the nation will be focused on San Francisco's parade."

At press time, the Parade Committee expect a peaceful, orderly march. Massive beyond expectations. Unified as never before.



**San Francisco
GAY FREEDOM CELEBRATION**
June 17th to June 26th

Gay Freedom Cultural Events, Parade and Fair Information —
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Gay Freedom Day Parade
Noon, June 26th

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Cinemattachine is not a public cinema but a project of Mattachine Society and its Seven Committee private club for men. You may join — \$3 per year; \$2 for 6 months, plus \$3 each time you use the club facilities. Entrance is thru the Adonis Book Store, 384 Ellis

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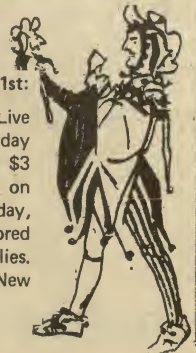
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NEW POLICY starting July 1st:

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Saga of Little Ruby

Ruby Hits Wales

by George

Wales
8-13-69

Dear Diary,

Well, this gin problem is getting out of hand. Seems some "springs" were discovered in the cow pasture. I have seen strange things since being here. Two drunk nuns, and now drunk cows. Thankfully there are large fences around the pastures, for they were trying to get over them. That's a long drop down those cliffs, over 100 feet in places. Luckily the vet was making one of his periodic visits and shot them all up with tranquilizers. Their milk won't be any good for a while. Argh, the thought of gin and milk!

Same place
8-14-69

Dear Diary,

This gin problem is over with! The bull got a taste of the stuff and did things you never read about in the Apocalypse and that's imagination. The noise and that poor, unsuspecting cow who was minding her own business. We heard the roar and the screams while in Chapter. We all came running out to see what was happening. And there, the bull, quite drunk, was leaping and snorting, saw the cow and went charging after her. She ducked, he aimed too high, unfortunately, and cleared that fence by at least five feet and down he

went. Everyone was in shock. Some of the more simple ones crossed themselves and muttered a brief prayer until reminded that it was only a bull that had met an untimely death, and that they should be praying for a good, rich benefactor to replace the stupid bull.

A party of the sisters changed into hip boots and suitable clothing, went down to the dock and took the small launch around the island to see if the bull was indeed dead. It was, but had a peculiar expression on its face. It was then discovered there was a cave there. It had been known that there were several of them at the water line, but no one had been down to this area for years. A strong and familiar smell was emanating from this cave: gin. They secured the launch and made their way into the cave where they saw, with the aid of a flashlight, hundreds of kegs of the stuff. They hurried out, since they didn't want to become intoxicated and came back around the island to the dock. They took long showers to rid themselves of the smell. There is nothing more distracting than trying to sing the Divine Office in choir, reeking of gin and we don't want the heretics starting something. We have enough troubles.

Dear Diary,

Well, the mystery has been solved, with the help of the local

librarian on the mainland. It seems that in 1798 smugglers used the cave as a storage place—long before the Anglicans were here, and the place was pretty vacant before that—anyway, they van-

ished, presumably drowned, and the gin remained there all the time. The kegs were sturdy, but over the years, began to weaken. There are also many blowholes all over the island, and when there is a storm

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and strong winds, you can see puffs of spray popping out of the ground. Recently the kegs began leaking, leaving pools around their base; the wind and water came blowing thru and up came the gin. So we are told. I hope. The Revenue people came around with a barge and took all the stuff away. If it's any good, they will sell it and the abbey will get a share, and a new bull. However, we're still praying for rich, new benefactor.

Rome again
8-16-69

Dear Diary,

Well, back in Rome for a day or two, then it's off to Hong Kong and Indonesia. I wish I could stay put for a while. I'm tired of zipping off to hither and yon, and these long trips get to me. A cloistered religious ought not to be suffering from jet lag. I'm not looking forward to Hong Kong, except it's a change from pasta. I only hope they



This is not a holy well, nor spring. Sr. Ruby had her films of the holy wells/springs in Wales, snatched by a suspicious British Custom Agent, who thought she might be smuggling dope in her camera. So she gave us this picture of Lourdes, famous for its springs. You ought to see the line of faucets there, she remarked after a visit in the early spring. It's a nice place in the spring, I only saw 3 Dutch hippies, 4 grubby Italian nuns, and 12 candle sellers.

don't have any mysterious wells or cows that drink . . .

Want a hot number? Take one out of a B.A.R. classified ad.

[To be continued]

Letters to Our Staff

**UNITED WE STAND:
DIVIDED—CHAOS**
Gay Citizens:

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doing with her "Save Our Children" campaign in Florida. We are a complex group with diversified needs, but we all share a common cause that should not, and cannot, be denied. If we allow our cause to be divided by petty bickering and cloud our judgment, we will lose to our detractors. Anita Bryant, the Elmer Gantry of human rights, has developed a strong political platform using organized hysteria to further her malignant bigotry and political aspirations. Her campaign is well-designed and well-funded. We could be also, but not without unity.

We need a professional political coordinator to devise a concrete approach in channeling the energy and efforts for total effectiveness. It is time for all our people to unite and demand our basic human rights, but not to over-react and succumb to in-fighting. That would destroy us, and we'd be playing into Anita's strategy.

This is the time for all of us to re-evaluate our priorities and try to understand the needs of others. We cannot be a separatist society. There can be no elitist groups. We must stand together or we will achieve nothing. I ask you to think about your dress and your attitudes when you are enjoying Gay Pride activities and the parade and just what does Gay freedom mean to you. Let us come together in peace and love and dignity and pride.

William Kruse
San Francisco

A Thanks From Dade County

Dear Friends in San Francisco:

On behalf of the Dade County Coalition, let me thank you for your contributions to the campaign to protect Human Rights. We fought not only for the rights of Gays in Dade County, but also to ensure that people throughout America do not have to fight similar violations of their basic freedoms on their own doorsteps.

Our opposition waged a well-financed campaign based upon fear and deception. Know that your contribution has helped to counter demagoguery. Dade County became an important focal point in the continuing struggle for freedom.

Again, our sincere thanks for your valued support. It has proven inspirational.

Sincerely,

Jack Campbell
Campaign Chairperson,
Dade County Coalition for
Human Rights

HURRAH FOR HONGISTO

Editor:

No words can express my admiration, my respect, and my love for Sheriff Richard Hongisto. He and he alone proved to the world his belief in

human rights; rights which our own president talks much about throughout the world, but not one word from him about human rights in our own country. Hongisto's courageous act of going to redneck Dade County on his own vacation time to fight for the rights of individuals to fight for their beliefs leads me to again believe in democracy.

Sheriff Hongisto stands above anyone else I have ever known.

God did not speak to me, but if He had, He would have told me, "Richard Hongisto is one of the greatest men in this valley of tears and his fight for human rights will be recorded in the history of the world."

Oscar Villavicencio
San Francisco

GAY DAY APPEAL

Editor:

The annual Gay Parade is about to sashay forth on Polk Street. We must

stop to consider that the whole world will be watching, appraising and judging as never before. We must consider what we want them to see.

Those that oppose the Gay community will be on hand in force to gather ammunition for the battle ahead. We have the dual opportunity of unloading some of their guns and corraling some new support from the greater community that we will desperately need. The key to our success in this event is an exhibition of DIGNITY.

If ever there was one, this is the year to park your boas and rhinestones in the closet. We are not fighting for the right to cross-dress but the greater battle of free existence in the community. This year let us not flaunt our defiance but showcase our normality.

I am reminded of my Black friend, who, at the height of a racially tumultuous time, held the respect of even the most

prejudicial factions. When I asked him how he had accomplished this, he replied, "I never demanded that people respect me, I simply earned it."

As a community we ought to be willing, as we demand our rights, to earn our respect. We must

comport ourselves with dignity. We cannot simultaneously alienate with our outrageousness and solicit support with an outstretched hand.

Scott Wesley Conover
San Francisco



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Donald McLean

If I'd Only Studied Tap Instead of Journalism

Stage: A Chorus Line

When the Civic Light Opera first presented "A Chorus Line" to San Francisco at the Curran Theater, it arrived on the hysterical crest of a Tony-winning sweep with most of the original cast and we responded accordingly, thrilled to see Donna McKechnie and Sammy Williams in their award-winning performances in person.

"A Chorus Line" is back at the Curran, with the international company now in residence. Gone is Miss McKechnie and Williams; instead we have Pamela Sousa and Tommy Aguilar. And time has given us a chance to stand back and look afresh without emotionalism at Michael Bennett's breathtaking tribute to the spirit of theater via a dramatically powerful dancers' audition.

That is, without emotionalism until the first showstopping moment, which occurs shortly after the beginning of the evening. The new cast (to us) dances comparably to the original company and sings and acts as well if not better (in many cases, the voices are far superior to the originals). And "Chorus Line" remains a rich, rare experience in the theater.

The show seems more in balance this time around. Pamela Sousa's Cassie remains in the background until her big moment when she quietly steps forward to talk to Zach and relates with firm dignity the despair of an almost-made-it relegated back to the chorus. Miss Sousa is an excellent actress who knows the value of controlled underplaying; her "Music and the Mirror" is first-rate, as is Tommy Aguilar's immensely vulnerable portrayal of the Puerto Rican

homosexual Paul. James Kirkwood's beautifully honed soliloquy for Paul relating the homosexual dancer's search for a masculine identity remains the most touching moment of the show.

Jane Summerhays' portrayal of the aging Sheila lacks the delicious sting that elevated Sheila to a powerhouse of acid one-liners; her Sheila seems already resigned to a disillusioned future, but Summerhays' performance, if more urbane than acid, is nonetheless excellent. But this "Chorus Line" offers a banquet of excellent performances — Miss McKechnie and Gina Paglia as Diana; Eivind Harum as the choreographer who controls their momentary fate; Jeff Hyslop as Mike with a dazzling "I Can Do That"; Steve Baumann as Al, the muscular Bronx dancer married to a tone-deaf partner, well played by Christine Barker; Karen Jablons as the "tits and ass" belter Val; Ron Kurowski as Bobby, the flamboyantly funny Gay dancer and Mark Dovey as

the pretentious Greg. A sterling cast all around, bringing Bennett's masterpiece sharply into focus.

Tharon Musser's lighting design and Robin Wagner's stark sets are superb achievements, the book is by Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante, music by Marvin Hamlisch, lyrics by Edward Kleban and choreography by Bennett and Bob Avian; they've all already won so many awards it's ridiculous to praise them further. Suffice to say, some tickets are still available for the limited run!

Club: Arthur Blake

There are probably no female impressionists in the business today who don't owe something to Arthur Blake. In a rare West Coast appearance, Blake is currently holding forth at The Mocambo during the cocktail hour of 5:30 to 8:00, Wed. thru Sun.



Jane Summerhays as Sheila, Eivind Harum as Zack and Pamela Sousa as Cassie brings "A Chorus Line" in triumphant return to the Curran.

For 90 minutes, Blake offers a barrage of famous ladies; some are better illustrated than others, which is natural, and if the impression is often more suggested than recreated, there is an abundance of clever material along the way. His Julia Childs telling us how to make hot buns is wonderfully risqué, a Noel Coward a little gem, and even Mary Hartmann gets a brief turn. Of course, there are Mae, Bette (Blake is the only offers of impressionist Bette Davis has ever officially endorsed), Tallulah, Gloria Swanson, a grand Eleanor Roosevelt and a not-so-grand Carmen Miranda, with just a few props in male attire and building to full dress impressions at the end. He does marvelous things with just a velvet hat, and his portly tummy swathed in a skin-tight sheath swaying as



Another scene from "A Chorus Line"

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ARTHUR BLAKE—Bette Davis' personal favorite now at The Mocambo.

Mae West is indeed a sight to behold.

His approach to his ladies and gentlemen is at times almost reverently kind, he never takes "digs" at his characters (well, maybe a little one at Marlene but never viciously), and much of his material is truly uproarious. Blake performs with the command of one who knows he was a forerunner for so many who've come since; the "original" Arthur Blake is good company to spend a couple of hours with.

Film: The Deep

Dare I say it? I found Peter Benchley's latest

underwater epic a crashing bore on land and only intermittently interesting underwater. 40% of the film is photographed underwater, a wet mile-stone in film-making, and the photography by Al Giddings and Stan Watterman is the true star of the film.

The plot concerns a young couple who discover a shipwreck off the Bermuda coast. The couple is interested in the ancient treasures uncovered, but evil villains are more interested in the 2 million dollars worth of morphine also uncovered. Who will win? Dashing Robert Shaw as the diving/art expert and hand-

gorgeous Jacqueline Bisset or the villains? Need I tell you.

Shaw is dandy in a role we've seen him play many times before. Nolte's "Rich Man, Poor Man" charisma seems to have deserted him momentarily, and Miss Bisset is once again lovely to look at and totally wasted. I somehow kept waiting for Jane Russell and Robert Mitchum to come along; this is the sort of predictable potboiler they used to love. The direction by Peter Yates is inexcusably secondrate, the script by Benchley and Tracy Keenan Wynn unworthy and the ending is downright ludicrous. If you enjoy beautiful underwater footage and a few moments when you hope the fish will win (the eel has the best role), then the Alhambra or Coliseum Theater is for you.

Film: Exorcist II: The Heretic

There are degrees of everything, including bad movies. "The Deep" isn't really bad, just boring; but "Exorcist II" gives us something to sink our teeth into. It's unintentionally the funniest film to come along in ages; William Goodhart once wrote a Broadway comedy, I think this is his second. The dialogue invites hoots of derision and audience catcalls, and director John Boorman strives to be intellectually scary and only succeeds in turning a former shocker into a current piece of



Linda Blair is wired to her seat to watch "Exorcist II", a true horror of a movie.

schlock.

Linda Blair is again Regan, devil-possessed daughter. Four years later, she has nightmares (she probably saw the original), so Louise Fletcher as a child psychiatrist tries to help her only succeeds in conjuring Richard Burton, a priest sent by the Vatican. For some unfathomable reason, Max Von Sydow is back, resurrected after his grisly demise in the original, and just to add spice, there is a locust plague and James Earl Jones in Africa. If this makes no sense, you've got it right. No needles, no green vomit, no chills, just giggles.

Burton is a wooden poseur, Fletcher is dreadful and Blair manages to convey horror. If she thinks what she's seeing is horrible, she should have had my seat! At the Northpoint.

FILM: THE OTHER SIDE OF MIDNIGHT

The stench you're smelling these days is

coming from Cinema 21, where the Board of Health really ought to take a look at "The Other Side of Midnight."

Marie-France Pisier, who shot to stardom in "Cousin, Cousine," now plummets to obscurity as Noelle, a gamy gal-done-wrong who wants revenge on her former lover, John Beck, who deserted her for Susan Sarandon. For 2 hours and 45 minutes, we watch Noelle abort herself with a coat hanger in the bathtub, become a model and movie star and eventually wind up as Raf Vallone's mistress. Vallone, playing a Greek shipping magnate, gives the only decent performance in the film. Ultimately, he has Pisier and Beck shot by a firing squad for the murder of Sarandon, who is secretly awaiting a decent script. I applauded his good taste, the only evidence of same in a vulgar, hack-ridden soap opera that goes on endlessly.

Beck should learn that a hairy chest does not a



Marie-France Pisier clings to John Beck as they contemplate an early retirement from the film industry.

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performance give, the others should have known better. The script by Herman Raucher and Daniel Taradash is a masterpiece of banality, the direction by Charles Jarrott is a study in ineptitude, and "The Other Side of Midnight" should be a great source of embarrassment to 20th Century-Fox for years to come. Quel stinker!

Film: A Bridge Too Far

Not all is lost, however. "A Bridge Too Far," now at the Alexandria Theater, is a first-rate film about an ill-fated plan to end WWII by the Allies in 1944 by dropping 44,000 men behind German lines to capture six strategic bridges in Holland. It turned into the war's biggest disaster because of a series of human blunders and erroneous reports about the German troop strength, eventually resulting in more Allied casualties than the invasion of Normandy.

Director Richard Attenborough manages to not only make a sweeping epic war film but also an interesting, thought-provoking human interest film, and while not completely successful in combining both, he makes "Bridge" a high notch above the average. He is greatly aided by William Goldman's well-researched and engrossing script. Although all of the events are claimed to be actual fact, a few scenes seem melodramatic, especially James Caan holding a gun on medic Arthur Hill to save his captain's life ahead of everyone else. But Goldman says it's fact, so who says life can't be melodramatic.

The three hour length is excessive, and the use of

an all-star cast may insure box office, but it also gets in the way of making a documented war film instead of a stargazer's delight. Ryan O'Neal and Elliot Gould look like they wandered into the wrong film by mistake, but Sean Connery, Dirk Bogarde, Anthony Hopkins, Robert Redford, Liv Ullman, Laurence Olivier, Maximilian Schell, Michael Caine, Hardy Kruger and Edward Fox all offer outstanding performances, though often so briefly (as Redford and Ullman) that one becomes very conscious of "star turns."

It is a confusing story and often difficult to follow, especially with some of the choppy editing, but the parachute drop behind enemy lines photographed by Geoffrey Unsworth is tremendously exciting footage unequalled in any war film to date. It's a definite winner.

Stage: Sweet Charity

The program rather humorously refers to the downstairs theater at the Golden Gate Academy as "on the great stage," conjuring images of Radio City, the Rockettes and "Salute to Spring" stage shows. The stage may not be "great" but it's certainly a big mutha, placing almost impossible demands upon any director to keep it lively and filled at all times.

There is no point in doing "Sweet Charity" if you don't have a Charity. Fortunately, director Joe Vigil found a real comer named Robin Tinder, a perky redhead who cannot only sing and dance but act with equal aplomb. While Miss Tinder's portrayal of Charity Hope Valentine, an idealistic but downtrodden dancehall hostess, lacks the ingenueness of the truly

naive, it is an appealing performance, justifying choosing a one-woman vehicle show.

For certainly the supporting players get short shrift in Neil Simon's script; Laurie Jo Nichols is fine as Charity's cohort Nikki, Robert Bradshaw offers a first-rate turn as Oscar, her schnook romantic ideal, and a stunning lady named Elaine Forzano and Geoffrey Colton shine briefly as a temperamental actress and an Italian matinee idol. There is also a funny bit by J.P. Christy as a bored information girl. But while the cast generally performs with gusto, the show chugs along erratically, a scene building momentum and interest and then the pace is lost by a long blackout, a humdrum number or just stoppers, but both Vigil the actors politely waiting and Canoe could have until they're sure no one else is going to speak before their line is delivered, which may be courteous but dreadful for pace.

Partly this is an inherent problem because of the cavernous stage; partly it's directorial. The worst problem of this is one dimensional "Charity" is tempo and, of course, the GGA acoustics leave much to be desired.

Sets by Pat Davis are Jorge Canoe has choreographed a couple of snappy dance numbers, namely "If They Could See Me Now" and "I'm a Brass Band" and the Big Spender and the girls are appropriately trashy. Simon's script is Neal's direction is a sentimental drivell with a few funny lines and one "Carnival" though the



Robin Tinder scores "Sweet Charity" as a personal victory.

clever closet routine along the way, so the show itself is little more than awaiting the next big dance number. Cy Coleman and Dorothy Fields' score is brimming with potential show-humdrum number or just stoppers, but both Vigil the actors politely waiting and Canoe could have until they're sure no one else is going to speak before their line is delivered, which may be courteous but dreadful for pace.

clarinetist desperately needs a new reed.

The story of a tattered dime-a-dance girl who searches for love is based on Fellini's "Nights of Cabiria." It's much more fun as a musical; the production playing weekends at the Golden Gate has the potential to be great fun, but it needs to zip along as a high-kicking romp, not a slow strut.

by Donald McLean



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Vincent Price To Appear As Oscar Wilde

Veteran stage, screen and television actor Vincent Price will star as Oscar Wilde in the world premiere of a new play by John Gay entitled "Diversions and Delights," beginning low-priced preview performances July 7 at the Marines' Memorial Theater in San Francisco.

A tour-de-force depiction of the infamous author's spirit of liberation, the new one-man show is set in a modest concert hall in Paris the year before Wilde's death with Price delivering the scathing jibes, bittersweet reminiscences and poetic parables of the master of supreme wit.

"Chantoozie- time"

"Chantoozietime," sub-

titled, "A Musical Bouquet," will open at the Chi Chi Theater, 440 Broadway, on Wednesday, July 6. It is described as a cabaret revue built around the varied talents of the five-member company and designed to appeal to the unique San Francisco - Bay Area audience. The featured performer is Denise Kilbourne, who in recent months headlined shows at Le Domino and Original Jackson's.

Dance At Stanford

The Gay People's Union at Stanford is sponsoring a dance on Saturday, July 9, at 8:00 pm with refreshments and good music. Donations to cover costs would be appreciated. G.P.U. is located in the Old Firehouse on Santa Teresa St. behind Tresider Union on the Stanford campus. For information, phone 497-1488.

Photo Exhibit



Ric Puglia, local Gay community photographer, has a show of his recent work at the SFMO Gallery at the Bank of America World Headquarters, 555 California St., through June 29.

Puglia studied photography at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and also at San Francisco City College and the University of California.

Writes Vinz Williams, "Ric's photographs preserve the ephemeral moments that comprise the passing of time... an original artist: alert, unobtrusive, yet precise, passionate and eloquent."



Vincent Price tackles Oscar Wilde for A.C.T.

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Survival House Seeks Furnishings

To furnish its newly acquired Market Street office, the Golden Gate Liberation House (Survival House) has sent out a call to the Gay community. Needed: three office desks and chairs, two filing cabinets, and other office equipment. Also needed are 25 to 30 foot lockers. Contact Stuart Gurtman at 944 Market Street.

Gay Photo Exhibit

The DESIGNS IN PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY, 555-A Castro, has opened a new photographic show entitled "Positive Perspectives - Gay Pride Week." The show's theme expresses Gay pride and positive Gay images of the homosexual lifestyles in conjunction with the celebrations during National Gay Pride Week. Photographs that reflect individual self-respect and the joy of the Gay experience were accepted as entries for this show. The selection committee in-



The cast of "Chantoozietime". Front: Michael Grove, Don Thompson, Jerry Ponciano. Center: Anton Mori, Denise Kilbourne, Mark Bruce. Top: Pat Parr.

cluded: Morrie Camhi, ted by Crawford Barton. Thomas Alexander Polk, The exhibit will run Dorothy Reich and Nan through June 30. Golup. The show is cura-

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by H. Klein



Peter Dinklage—"dully predictable pap—and millions of dollars." (H. Klein)

I just went through my records and pulled out a few to review. Bob McClay went off the air a few minutes ago and since today is Monday, Bonnie Simmons' day off - Jerry Graham, rumored to be the main proponent of KSNZ's ignominious slide into the mire of soft-rock, has just come on. This'll be easy to turn off, I figured. But he opens with the Who's "I Can See For Miles and Miles," followed by Springsteen's "Incident on 57th Street" and Mink de Ville's "Spanish Stroll!" Jesus, good radio sounds from KSNZ. I can't shut this off, especially since the first LP I've scheduled for review is the new one by Frampton, the one or two cuts of which that I've already heard being awful. O.K. Graham just flipped on a girl singing an old Beatles tune (Ruby Star?) and, while it isn't horrible, it isn't enough to keep me from my duty. Duty!

And duty is the only thing that could get me to write about Pretty Boy Frampton's new LP, *I'M IN YOU*. What a disgusting record! Yecchh! This is even worse than Stevie Wonder's last junk-pile (Stevie, a hero of Frampton, sings on one cut on *I'M IN YOU*) - and like Stevie's thing, this'll easily be a million-seller many times over. It'll probably sell more than Frampton's similarly dull last album, *COMES ALIVE*, which is already the biggest-selling double LP of all time. Could ya throw up? Frampton, once dubbed "The Face" while lead singer for England's teeny-bop heroes, The Herd, claims he wants to be the greatest guitarist in the world. As lead guitar player for the dynamite Humble Pie, he was certainly on the way. But in opting for a solo career along more

"sophisticated," commercial and mature lines, he has sacrificed rock 'n' roll abandon and excitement for dully predictable pap - and millions of dollars. *I'M IN YOU* will make him (yawn) richer. His music is definitely "sensitive" and very Las Vegas. But the tunes are BORING and the lyrics BANAL. Frampton ought to take writing and singing lessons from the Ramones. He still plays guitar okay at times, and he's as cute as ever, but, overall, I'm afraid I just can't give *I'M IN YOU* any higher than a D.

I almost didn't listen to *QUEENS OF NOISE*, the Runaways second album, because the first one was so horrible. But Adny Shernoff of the Dictators told me they were great live and I decided to give 'em a listen. Was I surprised! The all girls quartet from L.A. actually pulled off a decent LP. "Exploitation" doesn't even begin to describe their hard-driven brand of rock 'n' roll. In the hands of super-ace producers Earle Mankey and the legendary gold-record-making machine, Kim Papa Oo Mau Mau Fowley, the Runaways do ten songs along delightfully predictable lines: being rockers, living on the Coast, and, of course, being sex-pots (also combinations of those themes). And they do 'em all pretty well. In fact, on one, "Neon Angels," guitarist Lita Ford actually plays as well as a boy. *QUEENS OF NOISE* is a fine rock album - idiotic, exciting, ridiculous, full of totally silly poses. The Runaways were born to be bad. They get a B+.

The cover of Candi Staton's new album, *MUSIC SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS*, pictures the disco song stylist with her finger in a sssshing

gesture over her lips. She should have taken her own advice. Even within the context of the world's most offensively boring musical genre, this is a terrible album. Her last album had a couple of "right" cuts (B.A.R., Nov. 24, 1976), including her catchy-stupid

"Young Hearts Run Free." This album isn't as good and in some places - most places - it's downright bearable. What a waste of petroleum. I recommend this album as a birthday present for any one you hate - D-. The same Warner Brothers promotion department that is pushing Candi's latest drivel is also giving another push to Rod Stewart's masterpiece, *NIGHT ON THE TOWN*. In the wake of Anita Bryant's vicious anti-homo crusade, Warner's has shrewdly released "Killing of Georgie" from that album

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"The Runaways were born to be bad" (H. Klein). Cherie Currie of the Runaways.

as a single. I'm not sure how it's doing in Dade County, but locally the record is an obvious smash. "Killing of Georgie" deals with a guy who "just happens to be Gay." Georgie also just happens to fall victim to some knife-wielding hoods - the kind of psychopaths being encouraged by Anita and her satanic minions' hate-mongering. Booooo! Aside from the politics, "Killing of Georgie" is a hot tune and NIGHT ON THE TOWN, as B.A.R. pointed out last August, is a great LP - A.

Other things to look out for: Nick Lowe's EP, BOWI (David called his last album LOW - no "e" - so why not?), which has a song called "Born A Woman," easily replacing "Under My Thumb" and "Only Women Bleed" as the sexist-pig masterpiece of the decade; the new Ramones single, "Sheena is a Punk Rocker," a Beach Boys-type punk-surfer tune; and the long-awaited import-45 by the Sex Pistols, "God Save the Queen," which is too great to even comment on. They're selling it at Aquarius Records on Castro St. and at Rather Ripped in Berkeley.

H. Klein

SOUTH BAY WELCOME

Editor:

As a concerned citizen of the South Bay Gay community, I have long felt the need for a newspaper which will adequately cover news and events of local interest. I, therefore, congratulate B.A.R. for introducing the South Bay Chronicle, which promises to be a well-written, gutsy paper. At last the South Bay will have a media alternative, a vehicle through which area residents can voice opinions and present ideas - a paper which presents local, regional and national news and events pertinent to Gay people in the South Bay.

It is time for more of the 200,000+ Gays of the

South Bay region (total population, including the Monterey Bay area, is over two million) to come out of the closet and take an active, out-front stand on issues which concern us. Such activity is possible only with the aid of a strong media to facilitate communication of ideas and the dissemination of news. This is why a paper such as the "Chronicle" is essential. In saying this, I do not wish to slight other local Gay-oriented papers. They have, in the past, done reasonably well, considering their limited staffs, funding and journalistic experience and ability. I sincerely hope that these papers enjoy continued success. I also hope their staffs and management welcome any new local papers which may be started. WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE MEDIA IS DOMINATED BY ONE OR TWO ORGANIZATIONS.

Gratefully yours,
Dan Hein

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- July 3 LAKE MERCED RUN. Meet at the boat-house for this Bicentennial-plus-one run around the lake. The first Sunday of each month bring a snack for our tailgate brunch after the stimulating exercise.
- July 10 DOLORES PARK-CASTRO RUN. Meet at 20th and Church for this easy run - ideal for beginners. Have you ever seen the activity on Castro Street at 10 AM on Sunday morning?
- July 17 PRESIDIO-ARGUELLO RUN. Meet at the Arguello Gate to the Presidio for this run through the eucalyptus groves... a beautiful country run in the city.
- July 24 WINDMILLS-CHAIN OF LAKES RUN. Meet at the north windmill in Golden Gate Park for this scenic run through a lesser-known part of the park.
- July 31 BATH TO BATH RUN. Meet at Dave's Baths at 100 Broadway. Don't forget Circus-Circus today - a benefit for Operation Concern - Noon to 8 PM - California Hall.

The Bummer

You still say it can't happen here - well -

A. The Tavern Guild enthusiastically endorsed the Gay community voter registration drive to be conducted in the bars.

B. Last week at the Gay community mass meeting, 1000 people cheered the idea.

C. On Wednesday night, June 15, eight days after Dade County, an employee of one of Castro Street's most popular bars confronted a volunteer as he was registering patrons:

"I'm sorry, but we can't have that sort of thing going on in here."

"The only thing I'm doing is enabling Gay people to register to vote."

"I know it's for a good cause, but we can't get political in here."

"After Dade County, the lesson is that we can't afford not to get political."

"That may be true, but we can't have you bothering our customers. They come in here to have a good time and to escape the bummers going on outside; all you're doing is reminding them. So please leave immediately."

It can't happen here? It is. . .

Harvey Milk

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Renters who have assets exceeding the established \$5,000 cash allowance may also apply for Federal assistance based on a pro-rated subsidy scale. However, the annual income must not exceed a gross of \$9,500 per individual or \$10,900 for a family of two.

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An Interview With Daniel Curzon

Daniel Curzon is the author of the novel SOMETHING YOU DO IN THE DARK and many short stories.

B.A.R.: It's been some time since B.A.R. talked to you. What have you been up to?

CURZON: Well, I've moved from Fresno to San Francisco. I'm unemployed, like any all-American boy. I've written a couple of new novels. And I have a lover - my very first one.

B.A.R.: Is having a lover everything you thought it would be?

CURZON: I've never been one to subscribe to the over-glorification of romance. I've always thought love was pretty much lust with somebody you happen to like. We've all been brainwashed into expecting too much out of love. Still, I'm glad I have a lover.

B.A.R.: Why'd you leave Fresno?

CURZON: Well, without my teaching job at Fresno State, there was little reason to remain.

B.A.R.: Did you get fired?

CURZON: Not exactly. I WAS openly Gay there, and I've written a new novel about the problems I experienced, called AMONG THE CARNIVORES - as yet unpublished. But I don't really think being out of the closet did me in.

B.A.R.: What did?

CURZON: Budget cuts. The enrollment in the English Department declined, taking me and several others with it. If economic uncertainty and fear and worry are good for a writer, then I should turn out a real masterpiece any day now.

B.A.R.: It's been said that writers shouldn't be too much a part of the Establishment anyway. Do you agree?

CURZON: I don't think I do, actually. Shakespeare was hardly a radical. I suppose it's possible for a writer to win too many grants and have too cozy a connection with the 'status quo' - he can get fat and reactionary. But serious writers thrive on opposing what they see around them, and I doubt they can be bought off.

B.A.R.: What was it like being an openly Gay teacher?

CURZON: Many people were quite pleasant to me - token fag that I was. However, I vividly recall one male student who wrote on his final exam that he didn't think he could write the exam for me "because a dick-sucking man is worth, at best, a joke."

B.A.R.: What grade did you give him?

CURZON: A fair one. I'm not vindictive . . . not in THAT way at least!

B.A.R.: Any other experiences like that?

CURZON: Well, since I've left Fresno, I've learned that one of the poets on the staff there was bad-mouthing me behind my back. I didn't know the man at all, but I suspect he's one of those types who're polite on the surface but seething with hatred of "fags" underneath. I hope it was nothing I SAID to this poet. (I seem to have a knack for making enemies.)

B.A.R.: What do you do?

CURZON: I talk back. I get angry. THE ADVOCATE still holds a grudge against me, I've discovered recently. You'd think THE ADVOCATE would be BIGGER than that!

B.A.R.: Why did you quarrel with THE ADVOCATE?

CURZON: I'd just as soon forgive and forget.

B.A.R.: What did that poet in Fresno say about you behind your back?

CURZON: That my writing was "nasty."

B.A.R.: Nasty?

CURZON: Seems almost quaint, doesn't it? I guess certain people want art to be more perfect than life. But I feel uncomfortable as a teller-of-the-truth if I don't present the harsher side of reality. Maybe I ought to write a wholesome, uplifting book - fuck it, no I shouldn't! I try to tell the truth as I see it.

B.A.R.: What are you writing at the moment?

CURZON: At the moment I'm staging an evening of satirical skits that I wrote. It's called SEX SHOW. We're putting them on the first three weekends in July at the Gay Community Center on Grove.

B.A.R.: Have you had any previous experience in the theater?

CURZON: Back in college I directed some one-acts and did some acting. At present I'm lucky to have a very good cast with lots of expertise. One of my actors has published a play and even traveled with Tennessee Williams for a while. Another cast member has worked with films in Hollywood. To-

gether we've come up with a lively and funny show.

B.A.R.: What's the satire about?

CURZON: I'm trying to poke fun at our sexual behavior. For example, one skit is about Beaver and his Dad - remember "Leave It to Beaver?" They're talking over Dad's plans for Beaver's initiation into manhood - by being sodomized by the 13 Elders of the town. I got the idea from the Keraki Tribe of New Guinea, which actually does initiate its young men through sodomy. I merely transferred it to Beaver and his Dad to show the arbitrariness of what's considered "manliness" and what's not.



Daniel Curzon novelist, author/director of "Sex Show" at the Gay Center. Photo by Stephan Martin.

B.A.R.: Would you say your skits are obscene?

CURZON: Don't get the wrong idea. They're FUNNY! The sex is not presented realistically - only in a stylized way. I have no particular fondness for pornography. But I do get a charge out of poking holes in the myths around sex.

B.A.R.: Should I bring my grandmother to these skits?

CURZON: Sure, grannies are welcome! In fact, everybody's welcome - Gays and non-Gays alike! We try to touch on all sorts of sexuality - from transvestism to bestiality - but comically! Please let me insist that we're not appealing to prurient interests!

B.A.R.: You sound as though there's something wrong with appealing to prurient interests.

CURZON: Well, theoretically there may not be, but practically I distinguish between material we jack off to and material we laugh at. Maybe in these skits I'm trying to make up for not having ANY sex in my second novel, TIM MCPICK; but I'm not interested in describing sex acts for their own sake.

B.A.R.: What are your plans after your skits close in mid-July?

CURZON: Maybe they'll be a big hit and a producer will take them from the Gay Community Center on Grove to the Big Time - at least to some off-Broadway theater here in San Francisco.

B.A.R.: And if that doesn't happen?

CURZON: Who knows. I can join the Peace Corps. And I haven't tried hustling yet. If I hurry, I might be able to get in a little - say, six months' worth. Or perhaps I could give autograph parties and offer a blow-job with each sale!

B.A.R.: Sounds novel.

CURZON: Writing's a rough trade. But to be serious - I don't know what I'll be doing after mid-July. Maybe a teaching job will open up. Skidmore College in New York seems interested in me for a fiction-writing post, but I've been through all this before - many, many times. Most of the time, the job isn't funded or somebody else gets hired.

B.A.R.: Are you discouraged?

CURZON: Not really. We survive, I guess, one way or another. Maybe my agent will call me tomorrow and say he's sold one of my new novels. Maybe

Anita Bryant will call and say she wants to make the movie version of my skits!

B.A.R.: By the way, what do you think of Miss Bryant?

CURZON: I wish somebody would burn the Bible! Why do Gays fight her on her own ground? Who cares what some ancient tribe of nomads wrote six thousand years ago? In some of my skits I try to show the stupidity of accepting the Bible as literal fact. Are we really living in the 20th century?

B.A.R.: Well, good luck with your skits and your future writing.

CURZON: Nice talking to you.

Tales of Tessi Tura

Hero's Tragic Flaw: Siegfried Melts In Your Mouth, Hagen Daszn't

by George Heymont



"You think you've got problems? I've got this young punk of a roommate who just ran off to slay a dragon. This morning he dragged home some grizzly bear from the bushes. He always beats me and tells me he hates my cooking, too!!! (Tenor Paul Crook as Mime in Wagner's SIEGFRIED)

"RING CYCLE" IN SEATTLE

Like to spend a week's vacation with gods, giants, dragons, dwarfs and mermaids; cross a rainbow bridge to a castle in the sky; break through a ring of magic fire and watch the Rhine overflow? Sounds kinkier than a charter flight? Truth is that it can happen in Seattle in a few weeks, just a hop, skip and jump away.

Richard Wagner's "Ring of the Niebelungs" draws music fans to festivals all over Europe during the summer months. Yet, due to recent scandals over the productions at Bayreuth and other bastions of summer opera, many music lovers are turning to Seattle, with good reason. It is the only place in the world where you can see the cycle performed one week in German and the next in English. Both cycles are sung in sequence with a unified cast and a continuity of voice and drama that is rare. The entire saga involves 19 hours of mythology, music and magic woven into a spell-binding treat. Often the schedules of international casts result in a jumbling of the four operas as if some mad projectionist had mixed up the reels in a mystery film.

The "Ring" consists of four operas: DAS RHEINGOLD, DIE WALKURE, SIEGFRIED, and GOTTERDAMMERUNG.

Wagner's musical style employs leitmotifs (musical themes) for various characters, incidents and symbols to be found in the drama, all of which are tied together in the plot. The story is complicated, often unbelievable. Anna Russell, the great comedienne, provides the best briefing in her album, "ANNA RUSSELL SINGS??" where her famous analysis of Wagner's epic destroys its pompous overtones with deadly accuracy.

Many ask, "Why go to Seattle?" I went last year and am returning with bells on my toes. It was the best vacation I'd ever had. Seattle, a beautiful city on Puget Sound, affords one a trip to Mt. Rainier or Vancouver; to

Victoria, B.C., to see the summer was that the town Butchart Gardens, or just fans, all bursting with a ride through the San Juan Islands. One can even tour a Boeing aircraft plant or watch the salmon climb underwater ladders to their spawning grounds. The nicest thing last

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night's singers. It eliminated the isolation one sometimes feels when traveling. In fact, when the curtain came down on the final bars of GOTTERDAMMERUNG, the audience jumped to its feet in applause, many embracing each other in a communal warmth that even "est" couldn't market!

During July Seattle is unbelievably hyped for the festival, a convention for

Wagner junkies, and they arrive all set for a hearty fix.

The ghost of Mt. Rainier hovering in the distance adds a magical touch to the days. I recommend on the nights the Opera House is dark taking a boat ride across Puget Sound to the Kiana Indian lodges for an outdoor salmon bake, returning about 10 PM across the glassy waters lit by the downtown skyline. The nicest kind of evening to spend with opera friends, old and new, talking about past performances, basking in the warmth of each other's company. During the course of the week I met people from all over the

country, and I have kept in touch with many since. One also meets people not found in San Francisco's Gay areas, including some fabulous little old lady music teachers, easily the most aggressive tourists around.

Wagnerites are not noted for the moderation or lack of enthusiasm. At the performance of DAS RHEINGOLD, there was a handsome, intense man in the lobby in a powder blue tuxedo with a solid grip on his teddy bear. Up at Mt. Rainier National Park, I shared a lunch table with a Belgian nun who was teaching in Portland that summer. When she heard I was attending a Ring cycle, her eyes bulged,

she broke out in a sweat and almost overturned the table in her excitement, screaming, "Why didn't someone tell me!"

The performances were superb. Seattle's production is not in the usual

dark, symbolic style where everyone stands on a circular platform so that one KNOWS it is the Ring. Instead, there was an earthy, medieval flavor, with great stress on acting and a feeling for musical drama. Last year I attended the English cycle, in the new translation by Andrew Porter. The German cycle usually sells out faster, but I think the English is the better value. It turns 19 hours of the usual darkness into a gripping drama. I was amazed to see people actually laughing at the jokes in the first act of SIEGFRIED. The stage machinery for Fafner the dragon requires about eight people working pulleys to fabulous effect. At the end of Act II, I was jumping up and down telling people I wanted the dragon delivered to my hotel room that night, which drew some crude remarks from a few of my friends.

The Opera House is in the Seattle Center, site of the former World's Fair. It is a lovely park with museums, fountains, sculptures and an amusement area, easily reached by a 10¢ monorail ride from the downtown hotels. Walk out the wrong door of the Opera House and one is likely to end up riding the Wild Mouse, an easy way to break the intense mood of Wagner's music. There are several late night restaurants near the Center and in Chinatown for after-opera dining. The German cycle runs July 18-23; the English cycle is July 25-30. Tickets can be obtained by calling Seattle Opera at (206) 447-4776.

Travel agents offer several package tours, but there is one hitch. Most charge about \$100 for sightseeing. In order to catch everything paid for, one has to get up at dawn and hop on a bus each day. If inclined to late night debauchery or disinclined to get up early while on vacation, I suggest booking flights and hotels separately and sightsee at leisure. Bus tours leave from the Olympic Hotel and pick up from the downtown hotels. Bus transportation within the downtown area is free during business hours.

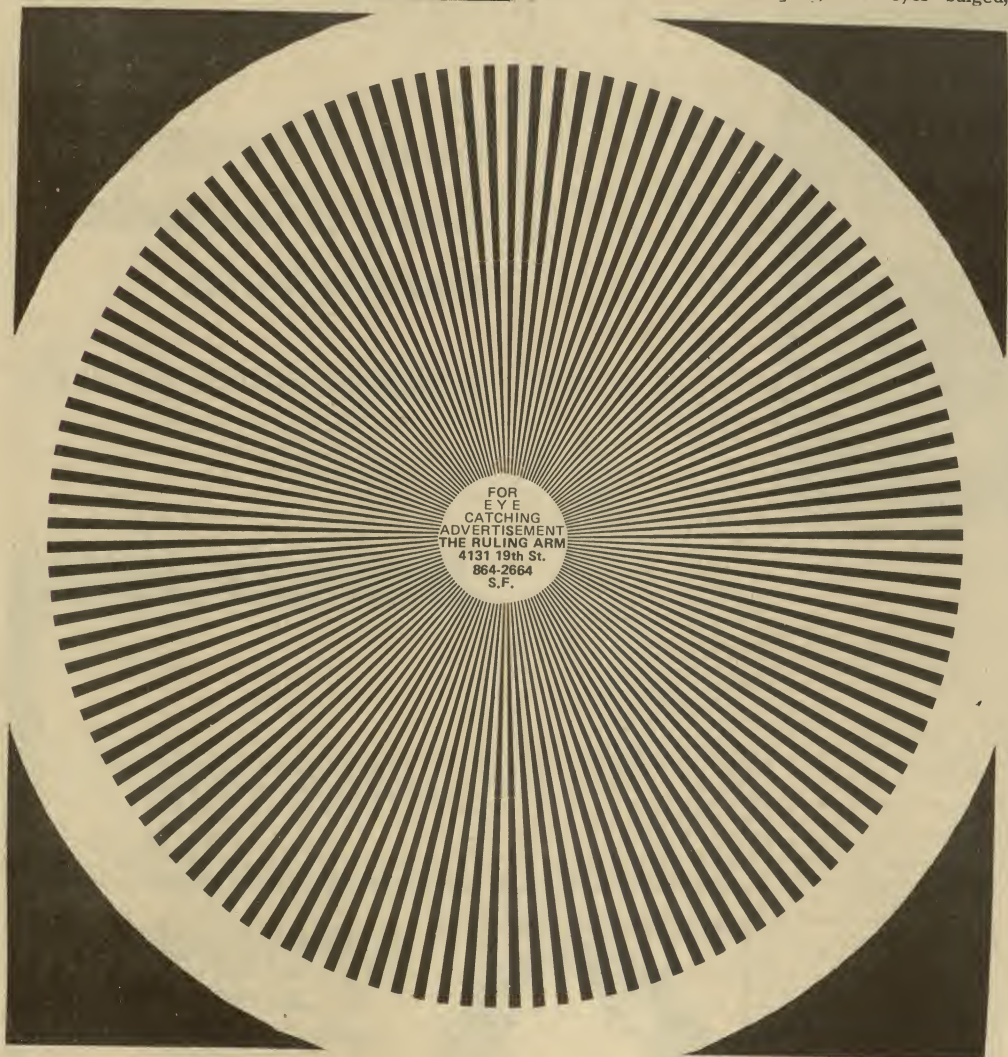
Seattle presents an overwhelming value for a musical vacation. It is superb opera-drama, only two hours away with NO jet lag, and a hell of a lot cheaper than schlepping through Germany.

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- John Rechy, "The Sexual Outlaw"

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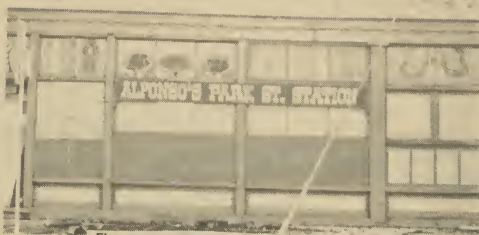
Historic SJ Bar Burns

by Art James

Alfonso's Park Street Station had seen better days.

In the mid to late 1800's it was known as Marty's Place and the Eureka Hotel - a popular stage coach stop that was known to offer certain pleasures of the road to traveling gentlemen.

San Jose was a sleepy western farm town then; the green orchards



Fire reportedly started in sealed-off second floor.



Charred remains of San Jose's Park St. Station.

photo by Art James

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reigned in the valley, and the days passed more slowly.

In the early 1900's, Marty's Place was a popular nitespot with a piano player that was legendary.

Today, the once proud, then defiant, old building lies in ruin as a result of an early morning fire that left the interior charred and destroyed the upper floors. The damage was estimated at \$130,000.

An employee of the bar, now known as Alfonso's Park Street Station, smelled smoke shortly after 1 AM - she spotted flames and shouted the alarm.

When the fire trucks arrived, the entire upper floor was in flames, and the 40 bar patrons below had fled to safety. One bystander indicated that trucks to arrive after the Earl, an employee of it seemed to take an un-alarm was called in. B.A.R., noted that he usually long time for the. Another observer, Gene heard the alarm on his



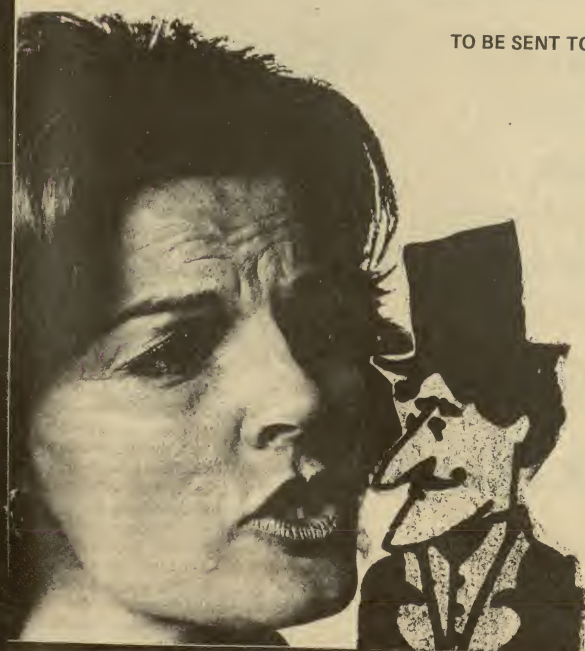
Gutted interior of Park St. Station.

OIL CAN HARRY'S WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT ANITA BRYANT AND HER BIGOTED FORCES . . .

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C.B. scanner while driving in Morgan Hill. He drove directly to the scene of the fire, noting that it had taken him approximately 30 minutes to make the drive from Morgan Hill. When he arrived at the bar, the fire trucks were just arriving also.

According to Earl, the firemen didn't seem to be in any hurry to douse the intense flames.

Heat from the fire popped windows in storefronts across Park Avenue; adjacent houses were threatened, and cars parked near the bar sustained heavy damage.

City firemen were joined by firefighters from the Central Fire District - with a total of 50 firemen on the scene and 13 fire trucks, the blaze resisted control for an hour.

According to Russ Kuebel, a Santa Clara County Fire Marshall's Deputy, "there is evidence of arson."

Access to the upper floors of the building had been sealed, and stairways removed. The fire appeared to have erupted in two locations on the upper floors, however, according to investigators.

Alfonso Reyes, proprietor of the bar, said, "The building had been posted for sale by the present owners, descendants of the original owner." Reyes indicated that he was in Oakland when the fire occurred and didn't learn about it until the following morning.

The bar had just been

inspected and passed after a major rewiring to accommodate the Disco Light Show; Reyes stated that he had just spent \$10,000 on the electrical work and other alterations.

In recent months, Reyes said he had received numerous citations from the police for alleged violations. The citations ranged from "dancing without a permit" to "allowing drinks to leave the premises." Reyes charged that he was being harassed because the bar was Gay.

In recent months, Reyes said he had received numerous citations from the police for alleged violations. The citations ranged from "dancing without a permit" to "allowing drinks to leave the premises." Reyes charged that he was being harassed because the bar was Gay.

In an article which appeared in the San Jose Mercury on Monday, June 13, the fire was detailed, but the writer referred to the bar as Marty's Place throughout and never mentioned the fact that it was a well known Gay bar. There seem to be many questions unanswered in this matter.

S.J. Gay Activists Speak Out On TV

by John Joseph

On Saturday, June 19,

three San Jose Gays addressed the issue of "Anita Bryant."

Appearing on Channel 11's "The Issue Is" program hosted by Laura Graff were Art James, Chairman of the Gay Liaison Task Force; Jackie Harris, student minister of the M.C.C., and Dan Relic, Chairperson of Lambda Ass'n.

The program, aired at 7:30 PM, was a discussion of several important concerns to the South Bay Gay community: Anita Bryant, discrimination, harassment, vice squad entrapment tactics, and other aspects of the Gay lifestyle.

Relic stressed the civil rights aspect of the Anita issue, saying that the Gay movement will be more explosive than the Black's struggle for civil rights. He also voiced concern whether anything would happen to Anita Bryant. On the subject of lifestyles and discrimination, Relic announced that there are Gays now working in the school system.

Jackie Harris indicated disgust with Bryant for twisting God's gospel of love, to condemn millions. With a sincere eloquence, Ms. Harris voiced the anger and disappointment of Gays across the nation in response to the Dade County vote.

A salient moment in the Christopher Street Demonstration occurred when cratic Club was sent to James delineated the San Jose Mayor Janet goodness and distinction Gray Hayes requesting a of a Gay person. Ms. Harris recapitulated the as Gay Pride Day. The letter stressed the

that Bryant's challenge should not shut us up, but rather should increase our determination for our civil liberties guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

James stressed the fact that Dade County was a setback, not a complete loss. He referred to the odds of a 10% minority in political contest with the conservative populace of Dade County, indicating that the demographics of Santa Clara County are not comparable. Stating that a majority of the Gay Community was responsible and active in general community issues, he suggested that Gays concerned with the Bryant menace would launch an extensive educational effort within the non-Gay community and develop traditional political organization to prepare for possible challenge.

The broadcast was concluded on the uplifting promise that each Gay organization would work to increase the positive image of Gays.

Santa Clara Human Rights Coalition Forms

by Sam Ciraulo

A letter from the Christopher Street Demonstration was sent to James delineated the San Jose Mayor Janet goodness and distinction Gray Hayes requesting a of a Gay person. Ms. Harris recapitulated the as Gay Pride Day. The letter stressed the

importance that this day be observed as a city-wide recognition of the more than 60,000 Gay people in the San Jose area. This proclamation would be in conjunction with the Gay Pride Day Rally to be held at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. It is expected that this matter will receive serious consideration from the Mayor's office.

At the last meeting of Christopher Street, the membership voted unanimously to donate \$100 to the Art James entrapment case and thereby became the first organization to donate monies to the case.

Sam Ciraulo, President, and Judy Krystal, Board Member, were interviewed by Denise Roth of KXRK this week. The program was aired on June 18 and covered such issues as the Dade County vote, AB 1302, and the status of the Gay community in the San Jose area.



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It came to me that love is not an e-motion,
an assertive putting out, but a trans-motion, a
compliant moving through.

- John Updike

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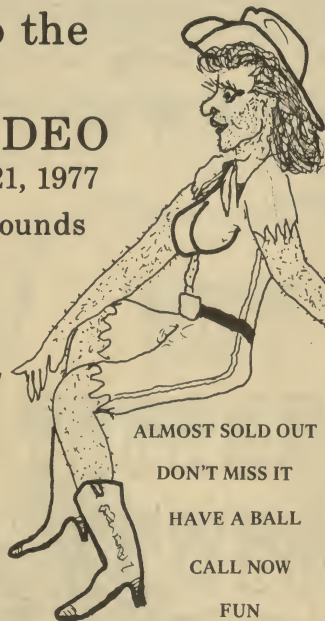
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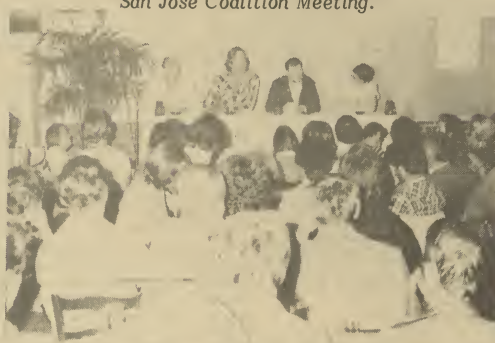
HAVE A BALL

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FUN



Dorothy Houser addressing
San Jose Coalition Meeting.



San Jose coalition meeting.

photos by Art James

The next meeting of Christopher Street will be held on Tuesday, July 5, at 7:30 at the MCC Office, 444 E. Williams St. (corner of 10th & Williams), in San Jose. Any interested people are welcome to attend the meeting or may call 247-1311 for further information.

Demo Club Requests Proclamation From Mayor

by Art James

The Gay community of the South Bay held its first coalition organizational meeting June 13 to discuss the Dade County vote and how local Gays can work to preserve and expand their human rights in the Santa Clara County area.

Gay activist Paul Boneberg of the Gay Student Union at San Jose State took the initiative and arranged the open meeting in the De Anza Restaurant in downtown San Jose.

Local Gays responded with a turnout estimated at approximately 300 people - filling the restaurant to capacity.

The tone of the meeting was established by the opening statement:

"So far Gays have basic rights in this county, but

we should construct a temporary organization to protect our own rights and the rights of any other Gays in the Nation should they be threatened by 'Save Our Children' or the like. This organization should be directed by the leaders of the established groups (M.C.C., Lambda, G.L.T.F., etc.) and manned by volunteers from these groups and the community at large. It should be empowered to speak for the whole community in respect to the present issues and gather funds and volunteers to construct a standard political organization to coordinate a response."

The open agenda allowed for many opinions, and one of the more eloquent speakers to address the issue was Dorothy Theresa Hauser, a "straight" spokesperson who felt the need to attend and express her feelings of support.

Her opening remark, "I think I'm outnumbered because I'm what is known as a 'straight,'" drew a roar of applause. She went on to extoll the many contributions that Gays have made to society, and offered the opinion that we should be proud of our history.

Urging those present to maintain a responsible course of action, she reminded the gathering that we need the alliance of our straight supporters to succeed.

"The world is watching to see how, and what, and who wins out. Not only you as individuals are concerned, but generations to come will reap the results of what and how you all do in the now. Get your straight friends, and your families, to come forth and stand shoulder to shoulder with you. Let's all be united as one."

Listening to Ms. Hauser's emotion-ridden call to action, one had the impression that she had somehow chosen the right time and place to offer the words we needed to hear.

In summary, the anger and disappointment of the people in attendance was changed to hopeful determination. \$1,500 was raised and the mechanics of establishing a true "coalition" have begun.

The M.C.C. agreed to oversee the operational fund, and another meeting was held Monday, June 20, to establish the full coalition of representatives from each organization.

Read the
B.A.R. Class-
ifieds...they're
sometimes funnier
than regular copy.

Books

Coming Out

BY WALLACE HAMILTON

SIGNET-NEW AMERICAN LIBRARY; 1977; \$1.75

Gay fiction is maturing these days. Lurid tales designed to be read with one hand are decreasing. An especially challenging theme is the "coming out" novel of the married man living in two worlds at once.

When we first behold the sensational format of this paperback original, we may feel a bit put off. Is it going to be one of those tales of backstairs intrigue where suicide and titillation attempt to bounce off each other? Or will this novel turn out as an exaggerated picture of how marvelous Gay life is? The truth naturally lies somewhere between the two. But gradually Wallace Hamilton, author of "Christopher and Gay," manages to enlist our sympathy.

Roger Thornton, divorced from his wife Rosalind, has settled down with twenty-one year old Michael. The story essentially covers their relationship. Roger is torn in many directions. He is still concealing his gayness from his business partner of ten years; he is

worried about his advancing age, and he hopes his eighteen year old daughter will not find out about his relationship with Michael. Roger still feels

strange about being attracted to one so young. Nevertheless, all problems seem to resolve themselves at the end.

There is also a sub-plot which involves Roger and Michael with a Lesbian couple who have a small child. The dialogue is sometimes banal and flat, but moments of penetrating insight occur.

So we have a saga filled with the conflict of generations that will probably

not win any prizes. But Wallace Hamilton has steered us in the right direction. A new American love story is on its way. We even have a happy ending!

by Frank Howell

Belle

BY MICHAEL STEWART:

BY McMillan - 243 pages

It's one thing to write a novel, a second to write a Gay novel and quite another to write a funny Gay novel. The first two labels relate to subject and project; the third is an assessment based on reaction. "Belle" is the funniest book I've read in a decade; and Belle, the Princess Poliachinsky, the wackiest lady to come down the comic plank since Auntie Mame. With one major differ-

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ence: trade Mame's heart of gold for Belle's kiss of death. She is the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse wrapped up in the indestructible hide of one tiny 90-year-old hellcat.

Belle is bent solely on survival, and she will reign as the queen-of-spades queen of her aging social set, for she will outlive them all. Her peers, her juniors, her friends, her enemies. To her they are all the same. The Angel of Death has his quota to fill and Belle

is his most willing hand- maiden - as long as she is spared for another season on the Riviera. And like many another intrepid Black Jewish Princess, Belle surrounds herself with an appropriate hutch of fading "fairies."

The book is set primarily on the French Riviera, peopled with an aged and ageless crowd of "haves" and "wish they hads." The spongers and the spongees - like fiddler crabs locked in a deadly embrace. They are kept together by spite, vodka, envy and Solé Meunier. By long memories and shady pasts. Gossip and the next free lunch are the paste for this collage of rags and tatters.

* * *

Making hay with the 'danse macabre' is risky business. Just how and where does one break the chain. Michael Stewart's ending falls completely on its face. The black comedy curdles. Tart turns to bitter and antic turns sinister. And while the outcome might look like the inevitable one, the finale is based on different terms than those that had gone before. Implausible as is the plot, the plausible ending is implausible for reasons that have to do with the nature of fiction.

Michael Stewart is the author of the books for the Broadway musicals "Bye Bye Birdie," "Carnival," "Hello Dolly" and "George M." "Belle" is his first novel. His timing and pacing have all the snap and crackle of a

fast-stepping musical - alive, lean, high-spirited and wacko. The Las Vegas gothic finale is to be regretted, yet easily forgiven. 220 pages of sheer entertainment out of 243 needs no apology. And one last delight - if

Paul Lorch

The Homosexuals

BY ALAN EBERT; MacMillan - \$10.00; 332 pages - 1977

With Anita Bryant charging across the country like a steam roller, it is time we think in terms of "educating" the public rather than pleading and screaming. "The Homosexuals" provides a rounded portrait that should lead the straights toward further understanding.

Seventeen interviews conducted mostly on the East Coast provide a fair sampling of Gays as flesh and blood people. There is no white-washing to detect here. Some of the men are lovable and warm; others are hampered by ego and an irritating failure to reach out and grow.

Sufficient variety pops up to keep the most hardened Gay or straight reader interested. Some of these Gays are defensive, overly masculine and bitchy. But all are human and real.

Bob Lawton will strike many readers as the best adjusted of the men we

meet. He survived a heterosexual marriage and went on to form a loving, fulfilling union with someone he truly loves.

Especially memorable are the Jewish rabbi, the hairdresser and the vain actor. But the Russian author will remain deeply etched in our minds for a long time. He tells us the graphic details of Russian Gays being spied on and constantly threatened. The only relief is to leave the country.

Alan Ebert brings a wealth of interviewing expertise to "The Homosexuals." His work has appeared in the "Ladies Home Journal," "People," "TV Guide" and "Family Circle." He doesn't need to take a back seat to Rex Reed. Let Anita read and learn that, like Shakespeare's Shylock, we also bleed and weep.

Frank J. Howell

All technology has the property of the Midas touch; whenever a society develops an extension of itself, all other functions of that society tend to be transmuted to accommodate that new form. Once any new technology penetrates a society, it saturates every institution of that society." Marshall McLuhan



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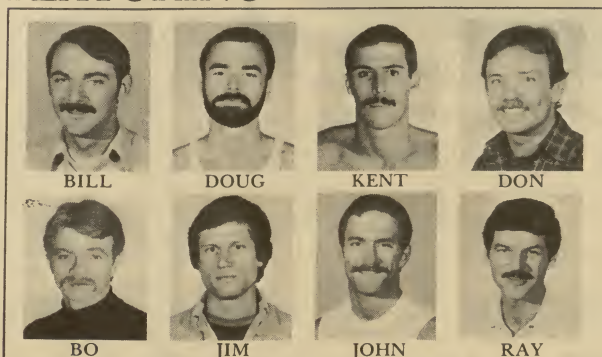
he was unaware
of the events which were about
to engulf him . . .



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RELIGION

WHERE IS THE ABOMINATION? Editor:

I am a Christian and Anita Bryant does not speak for me.

My faith is not just a simple matter of tradition, but is ongoing study, research and testing. While I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God, I cannot kid myself that the cultural context need not be considered.

The children of Israel had to increase in num-

bers to become a nation. Therefore, procreation was necessary. (Masturbation was also taboo because of its waste of the 'seed'.) Homosexual rituals had been part of the earliest Hebrew worship. It became necessary to differentiate Hebrew worship from pagan worship, which used male and female religious prostitutes. Thus the Levitical laws were given. (Leviticus 18.) The homosexual aspect of the Sodom and Gomorrah story was not an issue

until Josephus, a Jewish theologian who wrote in the age between Old Testament and New Testament times. Some key points that should be considered include the fact that the two cities were doomed BEFORE the incident with the angels. The term "to know" is used over 950 times in the Old Testament with only 9 times being used in the sexual sense. Finally, not only men were at Lot's house that fateful evening. "All the people" were there. "Men" was an inclusive term meaning both men and women at that time.)

Jesus said nothing about homosexuality or homosexuals. He did say, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Also, "For God so loved the world that God's only Son was given, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." Homosexuals are not excluded from God's love. God loves everyone; therefore, God loves Gay people. (Matthew 11:28, John 3:16-17)

Paul was not so charitable. Even so, the Greek words translated loosely to "homosexual" (malakoi and arsenokoitae - male prostitutes and men engaged in anal intercourse) do not reflect a lifestyle where there is love and unity. The abuse and coercion implied in Paul's words violate the value of the human being. The sin, and thus condemnation, prescribed by Paul are not reflected where two people live loving, nurturing lifestyles. (Romans 1)

One important point that requires some thought is Paul's statement that those Romans of whom he was speaking had known the fullness of God in Christ and turned away from God; lust, greed, etc., had become idols. The first commandment in both Old and New Testaments was breached by that idolatry. (Romans 1)

Homosexuality can be as loving as the people practicing it. Our goal, therefore, should not be removal of dignity, basic human rights, or the Good News of Jesus Christ from homosexuals. We should not force Gays to lie or hide. We, as Christ's followers, should remove oppression, rather than oppress.

Our goal then should be to teach ALL people to love. Jesus would ask, "If there are any among you who have no sin in them, let them cast the first stone." (John 8)

It is of utmost importance that thinking believers question tradition and the current sensationalism. Not so long ago, slavery was condoned as scriptural. Must we persist in blindness? Bigotry, fear, guilt and hatred perpetuated in Christ's name are the abomination today.

I am a Christian and Anita Bryant does not speak for me. Christians are known by their love. . .

Rev. Jane Taylor
Assistant Pastor
SF MCC

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3. We believe President Carter's stand on human rights must include all people, all minorities . . . must include gay people, too.

This space is financed through the Bonded Treasury of Save Our Human Rights.

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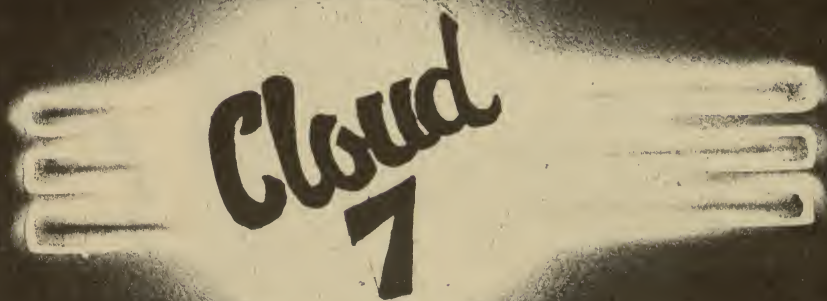
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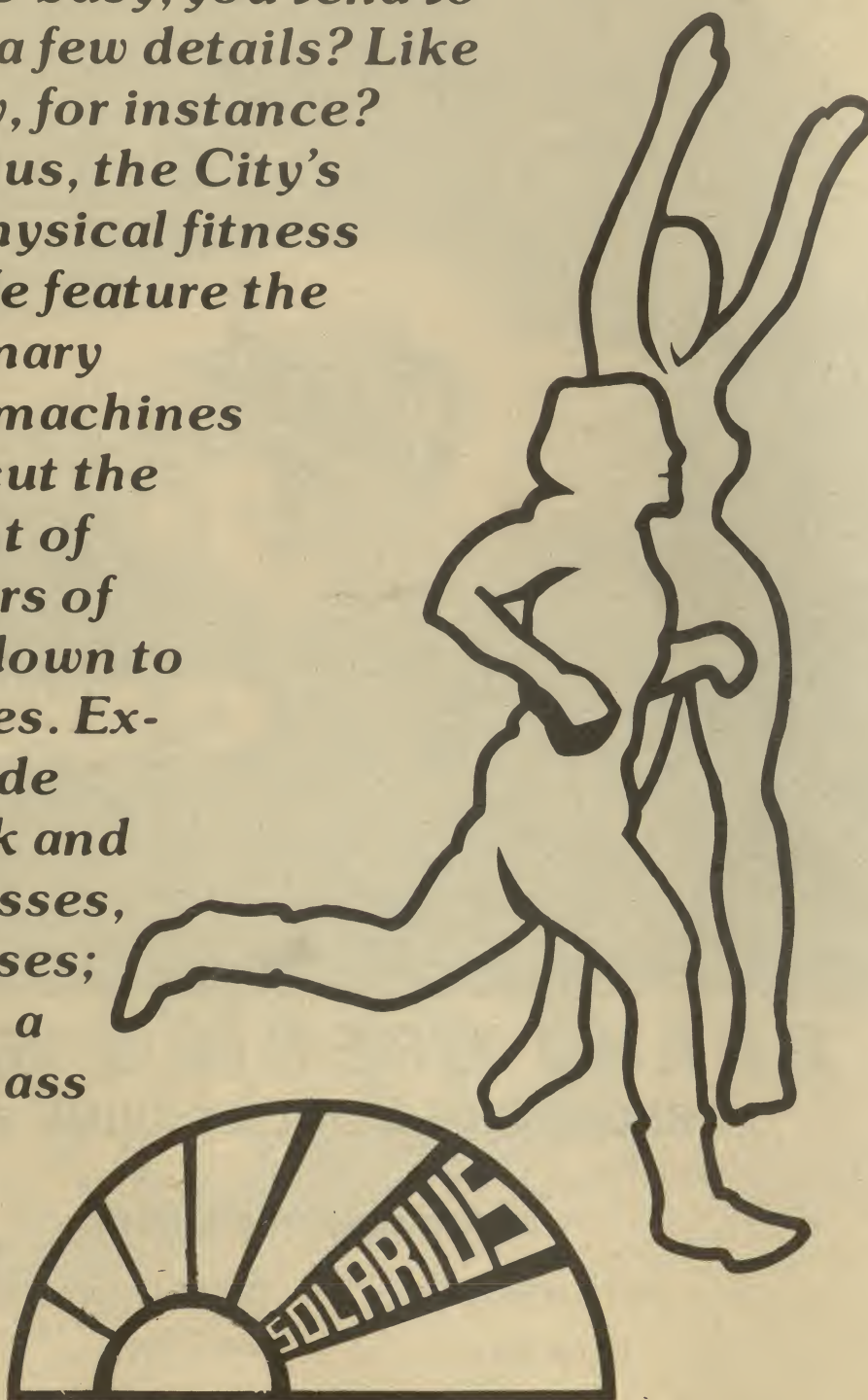
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